



Royal Free Hospital Children's School

Charging and Remissions Policy May 2023

Introduction

It is an accepted principle that there is no charge for curriculum activities. However, where activities take place outside of the National Curriculum, the school may ask parents/carers for a voluntary contribution to cover costs incurred. When this happens parent(s)/carer(s) are informed in advance. Every effort will be made by the school to keep requests for voluntary contributions to a minimum. Pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parent(s)/carer(s) have contributed and we are committed to supporting our young people and their families wherever we can – including use of our School Fund.

Basic Equipment

There is no charge for basic writing equipment, books and stationary, which the school provides.

Lessons

If the RFHCS is unable to provide teaching in a particular subject e.g. languages, and it is considered essential to a pupil's progress that the subject is studied, we would employ a teacher at no cost to the parent(s)/carer(s).

Instrumental Tuition

Instrumental/vocal tuition requested by parent(s)/carer(s), and taught by specialist tutors will be charged for; whether this is delivered individually or in a group.

School Trips and Activities Outside School Hours

We would only ask for a contribution from parent(s)/carer(s) for -

- Travel or entrance charges on trips/outings that are wholly or mainly outside of school hours and are not part of the school's duty under the National Curriculum or a necessary requirement of a public examination for which a pupil is being entered
- Residential school journeys. Parents will be informed in good time of the required amount and there will be the opportunity to contribute on a regular basis to reach the full amount before the departure date. Governors will consider favourably the situation of those parent(s)/carer(s) in financial difficulty, whilst at the same time recognising that the viability of such trips depends on keeping additional subsidies to an absolute minimum.

Breakages and Damages

At the school's discretion, parent(s)/carer(s) will be asked to pay for deliberately damaged or defaced school property or lost school items that the pupil could reasonably be considered capable of taking care of.

Examinations

No charge is made for public examinations that the school enters pupils.

- All entry fees are paid by the school for pupils completing a course of study that leads to an examination.
- Any re-sit requests for examinations will be payable in advance by the pupil/parents.
- In certain circumstances, examinations that have not been studied as part of the school curriculum will also be funded by the school.
- Examination fees for private or external candidates will need to pay an administration fee and any additional costs incurred, and deemed as reasonable, such as invigilation, staffing, accommodation and postage costs. This is set out in the Service Level Agreement for external candidates.

School Meals

Where day pupils are entitled to Free School Meals, we will provide them with either a cash payment or direct payment to parent(s) and carer(s) on a monthly basis.

Note: *In the case of ambiguity all these items are to be interpreted in line with statutory requirements.*

Date reviewed: May 2023

Date of next review: May 2025

Date approved by the Governing Body: 18/05/23