

**Gilmorton Chandler C of E Primary School
Charging and Remissions Policy M7**

Signed by the Governing Body:

Agreed by the Governing Body: Summer 2017

Review date: Summer 2018 or earlier if required.

1. Aims

1.1 Gilmorton Chandler Primary School endorses the principles of the 1988 Education Reform Act in maintaining the right to free education for all children. The act allows us to request voluntary contributions to broaden children's educational experience.

1.2 It is the governors' aim that all children attending Gilmorton Chandler School will be offered a broad and balanced curriculum. Activities such as swimming, residential visits and day trips are a valued part of this curriculum.

1.3 The governors, while supporting the concept of free education for all, acknowledge that such activities can only continue if the majority of parents / carers voluntarily continue to make financial contributions which are reasonable and appropriate to the activity in question.

2. Voluntary contributions for activities as part of the curriculum

2.1 When organising school trips, visits or workshop activities which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the activity. All contributions are voluntary.

2.2 If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel the activity.

2.3 If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, the child is still allowed to participate fully in the trip or activity as long as parental consent has been given.

3. Swimming

3.1 The school organises swimming lessons for children in Years 2 and 3. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum.

3.2 We ask for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of transport to and from the pool, provision of a lifeguard/specialist teacher and hire of the pool itself.

3.3 We inform parents in advance when these lessons are to take place and we ask for their written permission for their child to take part in these.

4. Residential visits

4.1 The full cost of board and lodging for residential activities during school hours is chargeable to parents.

4.2 Without voluntary financial contributions to the remainder of the costs (transport, staffing), the activity could not take place.

4.3 A full breakdown of the likely costs is available at the planning stage of each activity.

5. Financial support

5.1 The governors would not wish any pupil of the school to be deprived of any activity that takes place within the curriculum. In the event of any difficulty caused by the request for a voluntary contribution, they would ask the parents to contact the Headteacher. Where families are in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA), support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Child Tax Credit, provided that Working Tax Credit is not also received and the family's income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) does not exceed the annual limit, the guarantee element of State Pension Credit; and any income related employment and support allowance that was introduced on 27 October 2008, they are entitled to full remission of charges except for the board and lodging element of residential trips during school time. Children with pupil premium entitlement will be offered financial support.

5.2 While governors recognise that there can, in general, be no obligation upon parents to support these activities, if there were to be a significant shortfall between the costs and the financial support available, then the activity in question could not continue.

6. Optional activities and events outside the curriculum

6.1 A variety of optional extra curricular activities are also provided at school, attendance at which is entirely voluntary.

7. Extra curricular clubs run by school staff

7.1 School staff provide a range of clubs for the children to join if they wish out of school hours. Whilst teaching is provided free of charge, pupils are asked for contributions towards materials used.

8. Peripatetic music lessons

8.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

8.2 Extra-curricular clubs such as choir are also without charge.

8.3 There is a charge for individual or small group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. This charge is paid directly to the private provider who provides peripatetic music teachers to teach individuals or small group lessons on the school site. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

9. Optional lessons and events provided by external agencies

9.1 At times parents are offered the opportunity for their child to take place in a range of other activities. In the case of all of these parents are responsible for the full costs of the activity.

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