



Charging & Remissions Policy 2021-22

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Charging & Remissions Policy

Contents

Educational Visits, Extra Curricular Activities & Independence Skills	3
Voluntary Contributions for Non Curriculum Activities	3
Residential Visits for Curriculum Activities	3
Swimming	4
Horse / Donkey Riding	4
After School Activities	4
Damages and Breakages	4
Equality Impact Statement	4

Charging and Remissions Policy

May 2021

This document sets out the Charging Policy of Green Meadows Academy and provides information to parents on the circumstances where the school would charge for activities, whether these are within school hours or out of school hours. It also provides information on activities where no charge is made.

Educational Visits, Extra-curricular activities and Independence Skills

The Governors will support off-site activities which the Principal considers to be of good educational value and intrinsic to the curriculum.

Where costs are involved for any of the above activities, parents will be asked to contribute so that each activity is self-funding. Staffing costs will be met by GMA. If funds received are insufficient, the visit may be underwritten by GMA, or cancelled, at the discretion of the Principal.

Voluntary Contributions for Non Curriculum Activities

When organising school activities that are not part of the curriculum but enrich the educational experience of the children, the school will invite parents to contribute to the entire cost of the activity. These contributions are necessary to fund the activity but are voluntary as the school cannot make contributions mandatory. The level of contribution is decided by the Principal and is designed to cover the cost of the activity without affecting GMA's budget allocation. Staff costs will always be met by the Academy. There are circumstances where the school will contribute towards an activity, but if GMA does not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, GMA may decide to cancel the activity. If the activity goes ahead, it will include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. In these circumstances, GMA would not treat these children differently from any others.

Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded and GMA will provide this information on request.

Residential Visits for Curriculum Activities

If GMA organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, no charge is made for the education element. A charge will, however, be made to cover the costs of board and lodging. Activities which take place out of normal school hours, costs of hiring trained staff for specialist activities will be charged in addition to board, lodgings.

Staffing costs will be met by GMA, and a contribution to help with transportation will be requested.

Swimming

GMA organises swimming lessons for many pupils. These take place in school time and, and although they exceed the National Curriculum requirements, GMA does not levy a charge to parents.

Horse / Donkey Riding

The school sometimes (where appropriate) organises horse riding sessions provided by RDA and donkey riding at the Leeds Donkey Centre. These take place in school time and, and although they exceed the National Curriculum requirement, the school does not levy a charge to parents.

After School Activities

Where these are provided there will be a charge (unless GMA receives funding from other sources). Any charges will be to cover costs.

Damages or Breakages

A pupil responsible for non-accidental damage to school property, such as books, equipment, windows etc, will render the parent liable for the cost of repair or replacement. In cases of accidental damage to personal property within school application to be made to the Principal to cover full payment at their discretion or refer to the Chair of Governors if the claim is considered to be excessive.

In any matter of dispute arising over interpretation, the Governors will be guided by the DfE and the City Council regulations currently in use.

Equality Impact Statement

The Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies, in carrying out their functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- Foster good relations across all characteristics – between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it

In the development of this policy due regard has been given to achieving these objectives, further to which we will champion equality in all its forms, in keeping with our values.