



Dovelands

Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy

Updated	December 2025
Approved Leadership and Management	December 2025
Ratified by Full Governing Body	December 2025
Review date	December 2027

Aim

The aim of this policy is to set out the principles of Dovelands Primary School in relation to charging and remissions. We are bound by The Education Reform Act (1988) which introduced new provisions on charging for school activities.

Statement of Intent

The Governing Body uphold the provisions on charging for school activities contained in the Act as well as adhering to the guidance of the Local Authority.

The purposes of these provisions are:

- to maintain the right to a free school education.
- to ensure that activities offered as part of the Curriculum and wholly within normal school time should be available to all pupils, regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
- to give educational authorities and schools the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours.
- to confirm that schools may invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of any activity organised by the school, either in or outside school hours.

Definition of the Curriculum

The Governors believe that activities such as swimming and educational visits (or visitors) are an extension to, and an enrichment of the curriculum. They have adopted the LA Policy of Charging for School Activities, which allows the school to ask for voluntary contributions from parents to support these activities.

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the Curriculum with the exception of individual music tuition.

Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip.

If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid the full contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

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, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

The following is a list of examples of additional activities organised by the school, which may require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- school trips;
- musical events.

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the Curriculum, we make a charge to cover the costs of any workshops, board, lodging and travel expenses. For those children in receipt of Free School Meals, a reduction in cost is made. In accordance with the Local Authority guidance, children eligible for Pupil Premium funding are not charged for board and lodging.

Music tuition

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

There is a charge for individual music tuition if this is not part of the Curriculum. Peripatetic music tuition is arranged by some parents through the school to teach individual or small group lessons. Parents are charged directly for this.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in KS2 (Year 3, 4 and 6). These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for the swimming lessons but request a contribution for the cost of the coach to take the children to the pool. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

Foundation One (Pre School)

All children aged 3 years will qualify for 15 hours universal free education paid for by Leicester City Council from the September after their 3rd birthday. Subject to parents being eligible an additional extended free education entitlement of 15 hours may be available. Should there be spare capacity within the school after all eligible children have taken their requested free education entitlement there may be an opportunity to pay for additional sessions.

Subject to availability, parents may take up an additional paid session (3 hours) charged at £18 per session. Additional paid sessions may be taken on an ad hoc basis or a regular booking and payment can be made on the day or it will be invoiced in advance where the booking is regular.

Wraparound Provision

From September 2020 the school will provide a wraparound and holiday care provision. This extended services provision will be managed by the school and will be chargeable. The Governing body have agreed the following charges for this provision:

Before School Charges (Term time only)

7:30 – start of school £5.00

Breakfast will be available to all children.

After School Charges (Term time only)

Includes drinks and tea time snack served at 4:30pm

After school - 4:30pm £5.30

After school – 5:45pm £14.00

The provision has further information about the cancellation and booking procedure within the terms and conditions which can be accessed on our school website.

Lettings charges

Any lettings are charged at a rate agreed by the Governing Body.