

Charging and Remissions Policy 2026–2027

Banister Primary School

1. Introduction

This policy outlines the school's approach to charging and remissions, ensuring compliance with statutory requirements while promoting equitable access to all activities.

2. Principles

- Education during school hours is provided free of charge.
- No pupil will be excluded due to financial hardship.
- The school supports equitable access to all activities.

3. Definitions

School hours, optional extras, voluntary contributions and remissions are defined for clarity.

4. Activities Not Charged

The school does not charge for education during school hours, National Curriculum activities, RE, essential materials, or transport required for curriculum delivery.

5. Voluntary Contributions

The school may request voluntary contributions. These are not compulsory and no pupil will be treated differently based on payment. Activities may be cancelled if insufficient funds are raised.

6. Charges May Be Made

Charges apply to optional extras, music tuition (non-curricular), residential board and lodging, materials kept by pupils, wraparound care and lost/damaged property.

7. Remissions

Support is available for eligible families. The school may reduce or waive charges based on financial circumstances, including eligibility for Free School Meals.

7.1 Free School Meals Update (September 2026)

From September 2026, all pupils in households receiving Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals. Eligibility will be based on current circumstances and parents must apply via the local authority.

8. Equality and Inclusion

The school ensures no child is disadvantaged and provides support to enable participation in all activities.

9. Payment Arrangements

Payments are made via the school's online system. Instalments may be available. Parents should contact the school if experiencing difficulty.

10. Monitoring and Review

The governing body reviews this policy annually.

Linked policies and guidance:

Charging for school activities: [Charging for school activities](#)

Sections 449-462 of the Education Act 1996

section 7.5 of the Governors Handbook

Appendix A – Charges Overview

Typical contributions may apply to trips, clubs, residential visits, and wraparound care. Support is available where needed.

Appendix A – Charges and Contributions (2026–2027)

Typical Charges

Activity	Charging Approach
Day trips	Voluntary contribution requested
Residential visits	Charge for board & lodging
Swimming transport	May request contribution
After-school clubs	Fixed fee per session/term
Breakfast club	Daily or weekly charge
Music lessons	Peripatetic provider fee
Materials (e.g. cooking, DT)	Charge if kept by pupil
Lost/damaged items	Replacement cost
Late collection	Fee after agreed time

- All charges are reviewed annually
- Parents will be informed in advance of any costs
- Support is always available where needed