



**Newburgh**  
Primary School

# Charging and Remissions Policy

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Reviewed:	September 2026
Next Review:	September 2027

## Newburgh Primary School

### Charging and Remissions Policy

#### **How does THIS policy support the development of appropriate British Values?**

In our school we teach children to be respectful of each other and we believe that by learning about the differences and beliefs of others we will develop a greater understanding and tolerance. Our 'one-word school rule' for each of our primary schools support this aim. The government set out its definition of 'British values' in its Prevent Strategy. We reinforce these regularly and in the following ways:

- Democracy: Democracy is rife in our schools! Pupils have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. We elect House Captains, our School Council, as well as vote on 'Charity for the Year'.
- The Rule of Law: The importance of Law, i.e. those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that govern and protect us, responsibilities this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; Lifeguards etc. are regular parts of our calendar. Pupils are regularly rewarded for great behaviour with stars, pebbles, house points and praise.
- Individual Liberty: Our pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for children to make choices safely. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices.
- Mutual Respect: Our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around our core values such as 'Consideration' - our 'one word school rule'. Assemblies relate to what this means. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.
- Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs: This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. We offer opportunities to experience diversity through visits to places of worship and year group links to other schools in areas which are different to our own. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying are followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

#### **1. Admissions**

There is no charge for admissions.

#### **2. School meals**

There is no charge for children who are entitled to free school meals or universal infant free school meals. Pupils who are not entitled to free school meals will be charged a set amount per meal decided by the Senior Leadership Team.

### 3. Public examinations

There is no charge for examinations that are part of the curriculum and on the school's set examinations list.

### 4. Activities that take place during school hours (this does not include the break in the middle of the school day)

There is no charge for activities during school hours with the exception of peripatetic music tuition.

A charge for transport during school hours to school organised activities (ie, visits) will be levied as part of the overall cost of the visit where parents are unable to support transport for inter school events.

#### We may charge for:

- Books and materials that the parent wishes the child to keep (the cost will be made clear to the parents before charge)
- Optional extras (**section 5**)
- Music tuition (**section 8**).

### 5. Activities that take place outside of school hours (non-residential)

There is no charge for activities that take place outside of school hours when they are:

- Part of the set curriculum (including sports matches against other schools)
- Part of the school's basic curriculum for religious education.

#### Optional extras

The school will charge for optional extras. Optional extras are:

- Education provided outside of school time that is **not**:
  - a) Part of the National Curriculum
  - b) Part of religious education
- Transport that is not taking the pupil to school or to other premises where the local authority or governing body has arranged for the pupil to be provided with education.
- Board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit.
- Examples of activities that are charged outside of school hours include:
  - Fitt 4 Kids clubs, CoolSportz clubs, Onside Coaching clubs, Black Box Drama.

#### The cost of optional extras

The Headteacher will decide when it is necessary to charge for optional activities. Charges will usually be between £3 – £5 per session, per week.

Any charge made in respect of individual pupils will not exceed the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally by the number of pupils participating.

In no circumstances will there be an element of subsidy required for any pupils wishing to participate in the activity whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge (**section 12**).

When calculating the cost of optional extras an amount may be included in relation to:

- Any materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in connection with the optional extra
- Non-teaching staff costs
- Teaching staff engaged under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra, including supply teachers engaged specifically to provide the optional extra
- The cost, or a proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, where the tuition is an optional extra.

Participation in any optional extra activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to pay the charges. The school will need to have the agreement of parents before organising the provision of an optional extra where charges will be made.

#### **6. Activities that take place *partly* during school hours either on or off site**

Where the majority of a non-residential activity takes place during school hours the charging of the activity will be the same as is outlined in **section 4**. Travelling time is included in time spent on activity.

In cases where the majority of a non-residential activity takes place outside of school hours the charge cannot include the cost of alternative provision for those pupils who do not wish to participate. So no charge can be made for supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a visit.

In this case the charging of the activity will be the same as is outlined in **section 5**.

#### **7. Residential activities**

**Our school will not charge for:**

- Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours
- Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum or part of religious education
- Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit

**Our school will charge for:**

##### **Board and lodging**

When any visit has been organised by the school where there may be a cost for board and lodging, parents will be informed of this before the visit takes place. We will charge

anything up to the full cost of board and lodging on residential visits, whether it is classified as taking place during school hours or not. The charge will not exceed the actual cost. **Parents who can prove they are in receipt of certain benefits may be exempt from paying this cost** (see **section 11** for more guidance on remissions).

### **Travel**

Travel charges may apply when the residential activity takes place outside of school hours. The amount charged will be calculated to cover the unit cost per pupil. These charges may not apply to those pupils entitled to remissions, but no other pupils will be charged extra to cover those costs.

### **Activities**

The school may charge for residential activities that fall **outside** of school hours (**see section 5**).

## **8. Music tuition within school hours**

Newburgh Primary School follows government legislation that states that all education provided during school hours must be free; however, peripatetic music lessons are an exception to this rule.

**Charges will be made if** the teaching is **not** an essential part of either the National Curriculum.

The school may charge for teaching requested by parents and delivered by specialist tutors given to either an individual pupil or groups of any appropriate size (provided that the size of the group is based on sound pedagogical principles) to play a musical instrument or to sing. The cost of these lessons may depend on the size and duration of the class as well as the type of instrument.

**The school will not charge if** the music tuition is part of the National Curriculum. This includes instruments and music books.

Newburgh Primary School is dedicated to ensuring equal opportunities for all pupils including access to specialised music tuition, therefore charges made for music tuition within school hours will be remitted for pupils on free school meals. There is no charge for vocal or instrumental tuition for children in care. This includes instruments and music books.

## **9. Extended services**

Newburgh Primary School is dedicated to providing a well-rounded and extensive education for our students which includes a wide range of extra-curricular activities (extended services). Extended services enable our school to provide:

- High-quality learning opportunities either side of the school day

- Ways of intervening early when children are at risk of poor outcomes, e.g. by providing access to study support, parenting support or to more specialist services (such as health, social care or special educational needs services)
- Ways of increasing pupil engagement
- Ways of improving outcomes and narrowing gaps in outcomes between different groups of pupils.

(Note: The organisation and costs for wrap-around care are set by the provider ~ Pathways Nursery)

## **10. Damage to property and breakages**

Where school property has been wilfully damaged by a student *or parent* the school may charge those responsible for some or all of the cost of repair or replacement. Where property belonging to a third party has been damaged by a pupil, and the school has been charged, the school may charge some or all of the cost to those responsible. Whether or not these charges will be made will be decided by the Headteacher and dependent on the situation.

## **11. Remissions and concessions**

The school will give consideration to the remission of charges to parents or carers who receive the following support payments:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit – your household income must be less than £7,400 a year after tax and not including any benefits you get (this is the equivalent to your work-related take home pay being less than £616.67 per month at the time of application). The Department for Education have announced that from the start of the 2026 school year, every child whose household is on Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals, regardless of any other earned income.

Children of families who receive these payments are also entitled to free school meals. Parents who are eligible for the remission of charges will be dealt with confidentially. The Headteacher and chair of governors will authorise the remission of charges. The school may choose to subsidise part or all of the payment of some charges for certain activities and pupils, and this will be determined by the Governing Body and Headteacher.

## **12. Voluntary contributions**

The Governing Body may ask for voluntary contributions to the school for general funds and/or to fund activities that will enrich our pupils' education.

In any case where an activity cannot be afforded without voluntary funding, this will be made clear to the parents by the school. If the activity is cancelled all monies paid will be returned to parents.

There is no obligation for a parent or carer to make any contribution and the school will in no way pressure parents to make a voluntary contribution.

### **13. Inability or unwillingness to pay**

Newburgh Primary School is committed to ensuring fair access and treatment of all pupils, and this means ensuring that no child is excluded from an activity because the parents or carers of that child are unwilling or unable to pay. If there is insufficient funding for an activity, then it will be cancelled.

The identity of the child or parents of the child who did not want to make the payment, or could not make the payment, will not be disclosed under any circumstances.

**This policy will be reviewed annually**