

Sandhurst Primary School



Charging Policy February 2024

At Sandhurst Primary School we believe in excellent progress and experiences for all in a safe and caring environment.

Last review date:	February 2024
Next review date:	February 2025
Approved by: Date:	Rebecca Dove, Headteacher John Purcell, Governor Date 22.02.2024

Rationale

Sandhurst Primary School wishes to provide the best educational opportunities available for all pupils within the budget allocated by Lewisham Education Authority. The law states that education during normal school hours is to be free of any compulsory charge to parents and the school warmly endorses that principle.

It is recognised however, that many valuable educational activities are dependent on financial contributions from parents. Without this additional financial support, the school would find it impossible to maintain the quality and breadth of the curriculum provided for pupils. The school's concern is to keep financial contributions to a minimum and to ensure, as far as possible, that all children are able to take part in activities irrespective of their circumstances.

The law recognises that charges may be made to parents in certain defined circumstances, provided that the school has identified the activities for which charges will be made and has explained the basis on which charges may be reduced or waived for certain pupils.

The Governing body of Sandhurst Primary School has decided that its policy will be as follows:

Day visits

For visits occurring during school time we ask for voluntary contributions to meet the cost. For visits outside of school time parents will be charged for all allowable costs. It is sometimes possible for charges to be reduced for children in receipt of Pupil Premium.

Residential visits during school time

Parents will be charged for the full cost of their child's board and lodgings. No charge will be made for the board and lodgings of a child whose parents are in receipt of Pupil Premium.

The school will ask for a voluntary contribution from parents to meet all other allowable costs. Allowable costs include:

- materials, books, instruments and other equipment
- non-teaching staff
- teaching staff where separately engaged under a contract for the services for the visit or activity
- entrance fees to museums, castles, theatres etc
- insurance
- travel and subsistence

Classroom materials

No charge will be made for materials or equipment. However, for certain practical activities (e.g. technology or cookery), parents may be asked to provide materials or ingredients on a voluntary basis. Where parents would like to keep the finished product, the school reserves the right to charge for the cost of the materials.

Musical Instrument Tuition

Instrumental tuition is subject to an exception to the charging rule. Charges may be made for teaching individual pupils, or for groups of up to four children. Charges will be made for music tuition that is not

part of the school's planned curriculum. There is a subsidy available to children in receipt of Pupil Premium which is currently £25.00 per term per pupil.

After School Activities Run by the School

Charges may be made for activities outside school hours when the activities are in addition to the school's curriculum. The Education Act 1996 describes activities for which the school can make a charge. There is a subsidy available to children in receipt of Pupil Premium which is currently £25.00 per term per pupil.

After School Activities Run by Outside Agencies

When an organisation other than the school arranges an activity and parents wish their children to join such agencies may charge the parents. There is a subsidy available to children in receipt of Pupil Premium which is currently £25.00 per term per pupil.

Voluntary Contributions

In collecting voluntary contributions for activities, the school will never charge more than the actual cost of the activity. Children of parents who are unable to contribute will not be treated any differently. It is sometimes possible for charges to be reduced for children in receipt of Pupil Premium. However, where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and there is no way to make up the shortfall, they will be cancelled.

Damage to School Property

At the school's discretion a charge may be made for the replacement or repair of any item of school property that is lost or damaged.

In all the above the HT has the discretion to use pupil premium and or looked after pupil premium to support pupils in very vulnerable positions providing outcomes are in the best interest of the child.

Wrap Around Care

Sandhurst Wraparound Care (Sandtastic) is run by Sandhurst Primary School and exists to provide high quality out of school hours' childcare for our parents/carers.

Current cost for each session can be obtained from the school office [tel: 0208 698 5810](tel:02086985810) or email: clubs@sandhurstprimary.lewisham.sch.uk. From September 2023, the cost is £6.00 per session for Breakfast Club and £17.00 per session for After School Club, payable at the time of booking. Please see our Wraparound Care Policy for further information about late fees.

Nursery Provision

When available, we may offer parents a full-time place for children who do not qualify for 30 hours free childcare. The additional hours are payable half termly, in advance, on receipt of an invoice. From September 2023 the cost is £20.00 per afternoon session.