Fordbridge Community Primary School

Achieving excellence together

Charging Policy

Approved by Mrs H Simcox: Date: September 2026

Date: September 2026

Reviewed by: Ms Sam Spencer: Chair of Governors

Review date: September 2027

CHARGING POLICY

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum but we do ask for voluntary contributions.

Currently there is no group / individual tuition taking place for pupils learning a musical instrument.

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. All contributions are voluntary, however, children for whom the full voluntary contribution is not made will not take part in the trip, but will instead complete tasks within school that cover the same curriculum areas as taught on the visit. Parents who have contributed voluntarily may have a refund if their child is unable to take part in the trip through illness.

The following is a list of activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- Events in school
- Musical events
- Off site visits
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Specific University activities
- Visitors into school
- Visits to theatres

Residential Visits

If the school organises residential visits in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education or travel expenses. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Parents and Carers who receive state benefits are exempt from payment. If we cannot raise sufficient funding and the visit has to be cancelled then that aspect of the curriculum would be covered in other ways.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum and are taught by peripatetic music teachers. We do not charge for this. There will be a charge for any individual or small group music tuition that is not part of the National Curriculum and out of school hours.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Phase 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum and therefore no charge is made.

Before School Breakfast Club

The School provides a Breakfast Club daily, which is currently funded externally, so no charge is made.

Before and After School Clubs

Various before and after school clubs are run throughout the year for which no charge is made. There may be some clubs run by outside agencies for which a fee may be payable. Parents are informed of these before enrolling their children.

Facilities Hire

The Council's terms of conditions will apply for any external lettings. Please refer to the standard pricing list, provided by the Local Authority in schools Lettings Policy.

The Headteacher has the authority to set one off charges for a specific event (consideration made for recommended local rates) or waive any charges for a charitable purpose.

Miscellaneous Items

There is a charge for the following items:

- Replacement Water Bottles £1.00 (Free bottles provided annually)
- Replacement Home Reading Diaries 50p
- Book Bags £5.00

Exceptions / Remissions

In exceptional circumstances, the school may make an exception, on a payment we would normally expect to receive under our charging policy.

- 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
- Child Tax Credit – provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

- Universal Credit – if you apply on or after 1 April 2018, your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Fordbridge Childcare Plus

Childcare Provision – Fordbridge Childcare Plus

Currently Fordbridge Childcare Plus operates childcare facilities for nursery children from 8.30am - 3.30pm.

The following prices are in effect:

2 & 3 year olds £6.50 per hour

For our 30-hour funded wraparound children who are attending full time for 35 hours per week, we offer a reduced rate at **£2.00** per hour for the additional 5 hours each week.

Please be aware you will need to provide your child with a packed lunch.

Childcare Provision - After School Club

Currently Fordbridge Childcare Plus operates a childcare facility from 3.15pm to 6pm every evening.

The following prices are in effect:

4 - 11 year olds £6.00 per hour

Fees

All fees are payable on the **1st** of the month for the full month in advance via the Parentpay system.

Charges are reviewed annually by the Governors and may increase in September as a result.

For full details of the Fordbridge Childcare Plus prices / terms and conditions, please see School's website www.fordbridge@solihull.sch.uk

Chargeable extras Fordbridge Childcare Plus and Main School Nursery

Currently Fordbridge Childcare Plus and Main School Nursery operates childcare facilities for nursery children aged 2-4 years old from 8.30am - 3.30pm.

Children can start in Main School Nursery the term after their 3rd birthday- If spaces are available. (You need to apply for a space with the Main School Office)

Sessions are either 8.30am-3.30pm fullday sessions, 8.30-11.30am morning sessions, 12.30-3.30pm afternoon sessions.

Funded and non-funded spaces available.

Funding for 2- year spaces (15 hours) is based on eligibility and funding must be applied for through Solihull only.
https://edportals.solihull.gov.uk/Synergy/Live/SynergyWeb/Parents/default.aspx

Funding for 3- year spaces (15 hours) is Universal, you do not need to apply for this funding.

30-hour funded spaces available for 3 and 4-year olds attending either of our settings wishing to have full days (wraparound service). This funding is based on eligibility and must be applied for. https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working

For our 30-hour funded/non-funded wraparound children who are attending full time for 35 hours per week, we offer a reduced rate at £2.00 per hour for the additional 5 hours each week.

The following prices are in effect:

2, 3 & 4 year olds	£6.50 per hour

Please be aware you will need to provide your child with a packed lunch if they attend a Full-Day session.

Description	Unit	Unit price	Line total
Free entitlement hours – 15.00/30.00 hours per week- Either 15.00/30.00 hours funded per week available dependant on entitlement- Speak with office for further details.	Weekly	Free	Free
Additional hours purchased – up to 20.00 hours per week can be purchased if requiring top up hours outside of your eligibility for free hours. Please note we only offer sessions 5 days per week, we are unable to provide	Weekly	£6.50 per hour- Full non-funded session price. Either full days or 3-hour sessions. £2.00 per hour for the additional 5 hours, if topping up from 30 hours to 35 hours.	£205.00- Full days- 5 days per week. £97.50- 3 hour session 5 days per week. £10.00 per week- Top up sessions from 30 hours- 35 hours.
Meals/snacks- Snack provided daily varies each day- on offer fruit, yogurts, cheese, rice cakes, pancakes, crackers. Full snack list available from the office. No additional cost to parent/carer.	Daily / Weekly / Per meal	Free	Free
Consumables (for example, nappies, sun cream, baby wipes) **Parents provide their own consumables.**		N/A- Parents provide their own consumables.	N/A- Parents provide their own consumables.
Additional voluntary services- School trips	Ad Hoc	Charges as and when event arises.	£ Various
		Total	£

Tax Free Childcare- Parents/Carers create an account through Tax Free Childcare and allocate our setting. Parents/Carers are then notified of their monthly charges and make their payments through the Tax Free portal, the setting then receives payment via bank transfer from Tax Free Childcare.
Universal Credit Childcare- Parent/Carers makes their full payment via our Parent Pay system, an invoice is provided for Parent/Carer to claim their payments back from Universal Credit.

If you do not wish to pay for specific consumables, for example because you wish to provide your own, please make your nursery aware so next steps can be discussed.