



# Long Lane Primary School

## Lettings Policy

| Date      | Description   |
|-----------|---------------|
| Sept 2025 | Agreed by FGB |

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Review Schedule | Annually  |
| Next Review     | Sept 2026 |

## **1. Adoption**

1. The governing board reviewed and adopted the lettings policy and the scale of charges set out below.

## **2. Introduction**

1. Long Lane Primary School aims to facilitate the use of the school premises by members of the local community in order to foster closer ties between the school and its neighbours.
2. The governing board has adopted the following policy to promote the hire of the school buildings and grounds, which are owned by West Berkshire Council, so long as the letting does not interfere with the school's primary purpose, to provide a high standard of education for all its pupils.

## **3. Responsibilities**

1. The Governing Board is responsible for the policy and monitoring its implementation.
2. The Head Teacher will decide whether to permit lettings. If the Headteacher believes that a letting should not be permitted, the FGB will be informed of the decision.
3. The personal license holder is responsible for deciding on whether to allow the sale of alcohol.
4. The school office is responsible for handling all administration, taking payment, and ensuring that all bookings conform to this policy.

## **4. Definition of a letting**

1. A letting is defined as "any use of the school premises (buildings and grounds) by either a community group or a commercial organisation". Activities which fall within the corporate life of the school, such as PTA meetings and events are not considered lettings.

## **5. Priority for lettings**

1. The school premises will not be let to individuals or organisations if there is reason to believe that the name of the school will be brought into disrepute.
2. School premises may not be hired for any purpose which endangers the premises or which is excluded from insurance cover or other applicable regulation.
3. The Headteacher retains the right to decline any application.

## **6. Charges and Payment**

1. The governing board is responsible for setting charges for the letting of school premises and will ensure that the school budget does not subsidise non-school activities,

and that all costs are recoverable. In arriving at their scales of charges the governing board has followed the following principles:

- i. There will be parity of treatment for similar users.
- ii. The overall cost of letting school facilities will be recovered from users.
- iii. Any income derived from lettings will be paid into the school budget.

## **7. Letting costs**

1. The Headteacher is empowered to determine to which group any particular individual or organisation belongs. The scale of costs may be revised, and implemented, at any time by the Resources Committee. Any variation to these fees will be agreed and signed by the Head teacher and two governors.

- i. £13.50/hour for community groups.
- ii. £25.00/hour for commercial organisations.
- iii. £10.00/hour for the use of outdoor space with no use of facilities.
- iv. £100.00/day for external commercial organisations
- v. Private lease arrangements may exist via legal lease agreements these will be individually determined.

2. All bookings must be paid for in advance.

## **8. Discounts**

1. Where it is considered appropriate, the Headteacher is empowered to offer any discounts for lettings.

## **9. VAT**

1. The school is constrained by law to apply value added tax to all transactions where this is appropriate. The letting of rooms for non-sporting activities is exempt of VAT, sports letting are subject to VAT. Where an extra and separate charge is made for the hire of equipment, VAT is due on that charge at the standard rate. The school will record the VAT element of any income.

## **10. Deposits**

1. A standard refundable deposit of £50.00 is required at the time of booking as a surety against damage to the premises (including any equipment) or the premises being left in an unacceptable condition incurring additional cost for cleaning, caretaking or other expenses.

2. The deposit may be varied at the Headteacher's discretion to reflect bookings which are perceived to carry more, or less risk.

## **11. Payment methods**

1. Payment for individual bookings will be required in full in advance of the time of booking by any method approved by the school office.
2. Payments for repeat bookings will be determined by the school office.

## **12. Cancellations**

1. There will be no cancellation charge for any booking which is cancelled more than 15 days before the event.
2. Cancellations within 15 days will be charged at the full rate.
3. The school will seek to recover any cost incurred by the school which is unavoidable and result directly from the cancellation of a letting.

## **13. Letting times, available facilities and equipment**

1. The following times, facilities and equipment available are agreed as follows:
  - i. Lettings will not normally extend beyond 7pm.
  - ii. Lettings for Weddings and Private parties will be at the discretion of the full Governing Board.
  - iii. The Kitchen, Office Areas, Staff room, and Classrooms will not be let to outside groups in normal circumstances.
2. Variations to these facilities and times will be subject to the approval of Head Teacher.
3. Premises may be booked through the school office.

## **14. Considering applications for lettings**

1. Organisations seeking to hire the school premises should approach the School Office.
2. A request form (attached) should be completed, and a record of all enquiries should be kept. The Headteacher will decide on the application with consideration to:
  - i. Interference of school activities;
  - ii. The priority for lettings agreed by the governing board;
  - iii. The availability of the facilities and staff;
  - iv. The school's equal opportunities, health and safety and child protection policies;

- v. The health and safety considerations such as numbers of users, type of activity, qualifications of instructors etc.
3. If the Headteacher has any concern about whether a particular request for a letting is appropriate or not, the Chair of the FGB will be consulted.
  4. The Headteacher reserves the right to decline any application.

**15. Safety and Security**

1. The Headteacher has delegated authority to determine the security risk for each letting and will be responsible for allocating a continuous security presence or other control measure. The school's child protection policy and procedures must be consulted and followed when dealing with external organisations that work with children or young people.
2. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school site.

**16. Complaints procedure**

1. A complaint about the school from someone letting the school premises should be dealt with by following the school's complaints procedure. Complaints by a third party about a letting should be forwarded to the Hirer.

**17. Review of Policy**

1. The governors will review the policy annually from the date of approval.

**18. Miscellaneous**

1. The school will not be liable for any loss or damage to any property belonging to the hirer, or those taking part in the booked activity.
2. The car park is available for use at the car owner's risk space permitting. The school will not accept any liability for loss or damage to vehicles or other property.
3. The school or its representative reserves the right to terminate any event at any time where in its view a breach of the terms and conditions has occurred.