

Manby Lodge Infant School

Lettings Policy

Reviewed by: Summer 2025 Review date: Summer 2026

AIMS

The aim of this policy is to provide guidelines for the use of school facilities for the benefit of the school and its community. To enable the school management to achieve this aim, the Governing Body has drawn up the following policy.

POLICY STATEMENT

- 1. The needs of the school that is of the Headteacher, staff and pupils shall be given priority.
- 2. The Governing Body has the right to refuse any request for hiring.
- 3. All lettings administration must comply with Section M (Community Use of Schools) of Surrey County Council Finance Manual.
- 4. The Governing Body is aware of its responsibilities for safeguarding children and so, when letting out the school premises, has due regard to safeguarding policies and practices and the school's Prevent duty on anti-radicalisation. The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects hirers and their representatives to share this commitment. The Governors require all hirers and individuals working on school premises on behalf of the hirer to have a DBS disclosure at an appropriate level (as defined by the Disclosure and Barring Service).

LETTINGS POLICY

- 1. Hirers must apply on an 'application to use school premises' form ED110 and must sign to confirm that they have read and agreed the terms and conditions.
- 2. A letting will only be confirmed on receipt of the completed booking form. A copy of the lettings policy will be issued with the confirmation.
- 3. A non-refundable deposit may be requested for lettings.
- 4. Payment for all lettings shall be made in accordance with the schedule and terms and conditions on Form FIN566. No refunds will be given if the hirer is unable to fulfil his part of the lettings agreement.

- 5. Standard rate V.A.T. may be payable. See Section M of the Finance Manual for details.
- 6. All non-Education users must be covered by insurance. The SCC requirement is that an insurance charge as a percentage of the letting fee will be made if the hirer is not in possession of his/her own insurance policy with current SCC recommended public liability cover.
- 7. Charges for lettings will be reviewed annually in September. Further information regarding fees and lettings procedures can be obtained from the School Business Manager.
- 8. Surrey County Council operates a No Smoking policy on all its premises.
- 9. The school should undertake a risk assessment for each let.
- 10. All hirers of school facilities should have their own complaints procedure should anyone attending their activity/club have an issue they want to follow through formally.
- 11. Lettings to the School PTA (Friends of Manby Lodge) will be free of charge.
- 12. Lettings to bona fide community groups may be charged at cost, to cover caretaking, energy, wear & tear and administration.
- 13. Where the school is used as a polling station the relevant authority will be charged the actual additional costs incurred by the school.
- 14. A refundable deposit may be requested for certain lettings. Users will be responsible for any damage caused.
- 15. The school will retain income derived from lettings and costs to the school of lettings will be met from this income.
- 16. The Governing Body is aware of its responsibilities for safeguarding children and so, when letting out the school premises, have due regard to safeguarding policies and practices and the school's Prevent duty on anti-radicalisation.
- 17. Where hirers of school premises are undertaking activities involving children the responsibility for vetting checks lies with the hirer. Governors require that for all hirings involving groups working with children, appropriate levels of disclosure have been obtained from the DBS for the individuals working on the school premises. Where a DBS disclosure includes convictions, or other relevant information, the hirer is required to undertake an assessment of risk to determine whether that individual is suitable to work with children and young people.
- 18. 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.
- 19. Decisions whether to permit lettings will be made by the Head teacher. If the Headteacher believes a letting should not be permitted he/she will report the reasons to the Governing Body.
- 20. All persons hiring the school premises will be expected to conform to the relevant Health & Safety regulations. A copy of the user's Risk Assessment must be provided and kept on file in the school.
- 21. All hirers must carry sufficient Third-Party Liability insurance to Surrey County Council requirements. A copy of the insurance policy must be provided and kept on file in the school. If the hirer is not in possession of their own policy the school may organise cover (for an additional fee) through the SCC recommended policy.

- 22. All hirers of school facilities should have their own complaints procedure should anyone attending their activity/club have an issue they want to follow through formally.
- 23. A Transfer of Control Agreement must be completed for all long-term arrangements for community use such as breakfast club and after school club. Where child-care arrangements are being considered advice will be sought from the Early Years and Childcare Service before any undertaking is made.

CHARGING

The Governors formally adopt the general rules, regulations and guidelines set out in the—Finance Manual, Section M — Community Use of Schools.

The School Business Manager is authorised to let the grounds/ premises provided the annually produced County Council Schedule of Charges (Annexe J) are used as a minimum. However the intention must be to maximise income from this valuable source of revenue and with this in mind the Governors would expect most lettings to comply with the following:-

- A) Commercial Lettings (to firms, businesses, companies etc) where the prime use is geared to profits: SCC Schedule of Charges plus a minimum of x%.
- B) Commercial Lettings (as above) for other uses (e.g. training): SCC schedule of Charges plus a minimum of x%.
- C) Charitable and other Non-profit making organisations: SCC Schedule of Charges plus x%.
- D) Organisations affiliated/registered with Surrey Youth & Adult Education Service (SYAES): rates set out in SCC Schedule of Charges which include a 'profit' element.
- E) Other Education users: SCC Schedule of Charges plus x%.
- F) School, Governor and PTA meetings and events: Free as legitimate charge to school's delegated budget.

Should extenuating circumstances (e.g. goodwill in the local community) warrant the consideration of lower rates specific approval shall be at the discretion of the Head Teacher.

Monitoring of Policy

This policy will be monitored by the Head teacher and the Resources Committee.