

CIRCULAR FOR PARENTS

Ref No- Cir/RBS/2020-21/No.3

Date- 11.06.2020

To: All Parents (Jr. KG and Sr. KG- Year 2020-21)

From: The Director

Subject: Clarification on Fees Structure 2020-21

Dear Parents,

Hope everybody in your families is safe and well. In regard to the Fees Structure for 2020-21 which was shared recently, we have received various queries and feedback from parents and felt the need to clarify some aspects which may not have been fully understood.

We appreciate the constructive feedback received from our parents. As we are all part of the Redbricks community, we would like to listen to all concerns and offer clarifications with complete transparency and fairness for all.

We would like to give some general clarity as below:

Sr.No.	Particulars	Jr. KG and Sr. KG
1	Annual Education Fees	Split into Annual Education Fees and Life Skills Development Charges[ASP]
2	Meal Charges [ASP]	As per the existing structure
3	Life Skills Development Charges [ASP]	Demarcated from Annual Education Fees and not charged extra.
4	Percentage increase in fees over 2 years (2020-21, 2021-22)	19% [i.e.9.5% annualized]
5	Total Fee Waiver in terms of Amount per student due to prevailing COVID-19 situation	Rs. 10,400/- per student
6	Net Impact on Parents for 2020-21 after Fees Waiver- Same Class	4.7%



Below are the school's responses to the commonly asked questions:

1. Parent Query/Feedback: The school has increased fees by 20% this year vis-à-vis 8 to 10% revision on fees in the past. By doing so, the school is setting up a base to introduce a new fee hike slab of 20% year-on-year.

School Response:

- There is an overall fee increase of 19% for Jr. KG and Sr. KG. There will be no further fee increase in Year 2021-22.
- This increase is over two years – 2020-21 and 2021-22- and hence the annualized increase is only 9.5%. This is a nominal inflationary increase to sustain the school operations.
- With the revised fee structure, students currently in Kindergarten will also benefit from additional savings against one-time/differential charges when they go to Class 1, due to revisions in the fee structure w.e.f. Year 2020-21.

2. Parent Query/Feedback: The school has deliberately increased the fees then given a waiver with the intent of setting a higher base for fees increase in future.

School Response:

- The school took a decision to minimize the impact of fee increase on parents and has provided a significant fee waiver for Year 2020-21, in view of the COVID-19 situation.
- However, we wanted to share the fee structure, which will now be applied from Academic Year 2021-22, so that parents have complete visibility for the next year also.
- This is required to be shared so that it is understood that while the school is waiving a significant portion of the fee increase in the current year, the mentioned increase will be applied in the next year. We are sure this will help parents get a clear perspective and plan for future outlays.
- We considered this essential in the interests of maintaining transparency with parents.

3. Parent Query/Feedback: The school is giving no waiver on meal service which students will not be availing for some months.

School Response:

- Looking at the COVID-19 situation, the school has provided a fee waiver for the Year 2020-21 as a goodwill gesture. The total fee waiver amount is Rs. 10,400/-
- Here, we would also like to submit to parents that the major component of expenditure for running the school including providing Meals facilities, is the salaries we pay to our staff. You will be happy to learn that the school has planned to retain all staff and not introduce any pay cuts during this time.



4. Parent Query/Feedback: Why has the school introduced the Annual Service Package, and a separate head of Life skills development charges under it? Life skills development was earlier a part of the Annual Education Fees.

School Response:

- Life skills development charges is demarcated from the annual education fees itself, and is not an additional charge over and above the earlier fees.
- The school has been engaged in discussions with the Fee Regulatory Committee over last couple of years. Based on feedback received from the FRC and a ruling by the Hon. High Court, the school has felt the need to revise its fee structure, separating Core Academics from other activities and services, and the financials related to the same.
- This is the rationale behind introduction of a single "Annual Service Package" combining Life skills development charges and meal charges.

5. Parent Query/Feedback: What if my child does not opt for Life skills development? What if my child does not opt for meals?

School Response:

- While the 'Annual Service Package', which includes Life Skills Development and Meals, is an optional component, it forms an integral part of life and learning at Redbricks and plays a significant role in the holistic development and wellbeing of our students.
- In the event that a student opts out of the Annual Service Package, s/he would not be able to participate in the Life skills Development program, or avail meals.

6. Parent Query/Feedback: While students are learning from home, the school will have significant cost savings and this should be passed on to the parents.

School Response:

- Remote Learning will not save significant costs for the school. Majority of the costs for a school are fixed costs which will not reduce. Staff salaries constitute a school's major costs, and the school would not like to provide lay offs or pay cuts to its staff.
- We need our staff to also enable virtual teaching and remote learning for students, and to provide for face-face teaching/physical operations when the students come back to campus. Our entire team is in fact working harder than before to shift to virtual teaching, which will shortly resume.
- The school also is incurring significant additional costs to provide for the remote teaching learning infrastructure.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate that the school is doing its best to ensure that there is no additional fee burden on parents considering the COVID-19 situation, while sustaining its operations.

We hope this communication helps to address your queries /feedback and look forward to your support in enabling the school to function smoothly during this difficult period.



Should any of you still require a further interaction on this subject, we would be happy to meet you at Redbricks School, Satellite Campus on **Saturday, 13th June.**

In view of the COVID-19 guidelines on social distancing, we are providing multiple meeting time slots, while limiting number of participants. Registration will be on first come first served basis and only registered participants will be permitted to attend the meetings. Parents with common queries/feedback may nominate one person from their group as a representative to attend a meeting.

Please click on the google form link provided below to register yourself for a meeting. Kindly submit your registrations latest by 12 PM on 12th June, Friday.

<https://forms.gle/Ud5J3M7VB4ventWH8>

The meeting time slot given will be sometime between 12PM to 3PM. We will inform you of your time slot after receiving parent registrations.

Thank you once again for your support and co-operation.

Sincerely,



Rajkumar Joshi
Director
Redbricks Education Foundation