



Charging and Remissions Policy

The Education Reform Act 1988 states that there are no statutory requirements to charge for any form of educational activity. Every child has the right to receive free school education.

We recognise that all activities offered during normal teaching time must be made available to all children regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost. We recognise the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs and educational visits can make towards pupils personal, social and emotional development. It is our intention to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum and as additional activities. We as a school community have a commitment to promote equality.

Aim

The aim of this policy is to set out what charges will be levied for school activities, external lettings and extended school provision, what remissions will be implemented and the circumstances under which voluntary contributions will be requested from parents. Guidance is based on the Education Act 1996: Sections 449-462.

Responsibilities

The Governing Body of the School are responsible for determining the content of the policy and the head teacher for implementation. Any determinations with respect to individual parents will be considered jointly by the head teacher (*and/or Governing Body*).

Definitions

Community Facilities – activities which the governors do not feel is of direct educational benefit to children at the school

Extended school provision – provision of childcare outside the standard school day where it is optional as to whether the child attends

External Lettings – letting to an organisation other than the school

Remission – where a charge is not payable, either in full or in part

Sinking Fund – a reserve put aside over a number of years to pay for major maintenance or renewal costs

Prohibition of Charges

The Governing Body of the School recognise that the legislation prohibits charges for the following:



- education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment);
- education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education;
- tuition for pupils learning to play musical instruments if the tuition is required as an essential part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil, or the first access to the Key Stage 2 Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Programme (Wider Opportunities);
- entry for a prescribed public examination, if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school;
- education provided on any trip that takes place during school hours;
- education provided on any trip that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of the schools basic curriculum for religious education;
- Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential trip;
- transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local education authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport;
- transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing body or local education authority has arranged for pupils to be educated;
- transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he has been prepared for that examination at the school;
- transport provided in connection with an educational trip

Charges

(It will be necessary to determine, where applicable, for each of the following whether the governing body intends to make a charge and how much the charge should be).

- (a) board and lodging on residential visits (not to exceed the costs)
- (b) the proportionate costs for an individual child of activities wholly or mainly outside school hours ('optional extras') to meet the costs for:
 - (i) travel
 - (ii) materials and equipment
 - (iii) non-teaching staff costs
 - (iv) entrance fees
 - (v) insurance costs
- (c) individual or group tuition in the playing of a musical instrument
- (d) re-sits for public examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school
- (e) costs of non-prescribed examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school



- (f) any other education, transport or examination fee unless charges are specifically prohibited
- (g) breakages and replacements as a result of damages caused wilfully or negligently by pupils
- (h) extra-curricular activities and school clubs
- (i) Letting of the school premises or grounds
- (j) Extended school care activities such as breakfast club, after school club, holiday clubs and “wrap around” nursery provision
- (k) Charges for materials or ingredients where the pupils wish to have the finished product
- (l) Cost of transport to take part in work experience

Charges for use of school facilities (outside normal school usage)

a) Photocopying/laminating

Charge as follows:-
Black and white copy per sheet – **5p**
Colour copy per sheet – **10p**
Laminating – **10p**

b) Phone calls

Charge of **25p per call**

c) Hydrotherapy pool charges

Where a private/profit making company wishes to hire the pool during normal school opening times a charge of **£25.00** per hour, excluding vat will be made (where applicable). Where a non profit making organisation wishes to hire the pool the Headteacher in consultation with the Governor Finance Committee Chair will decide whether to waive the hire charges.

d) Hire of pool or rooms outside school opening times

This will be chargeable at a rate of **£50** per hour (excluding vat). This is to take account of staffing costs required to open and man the building and extra heating and lighting costs incurred.

e) Hire rooms within school opening times

This will be chargeable at a rate of **£15** per hour, taking into consideration that the caretaker will be on site and therefore no extra costs will be incurred



f) Toy Library

An initial charge of **£5.00** will be payable by all subscribers to the toy library. This will be paid into school funds and used for any toy library expenditure.

g) Outreach and Trainings

Charges made in respect of Greenhall trainings offered to other settings will be set by Greenhall at an appropriate level to cover expenses and any necessary cover.

h) Governor run Nursery

See separate information & guidance

In setting charges Governors will also consider:

- the proportion of the costs recovered where a charge is to be made;
- whether any remission is to extend beyond the statutory minimum;
- whether or not special consideration is to be given to hardship cases not contained within the exemptions and how this is to be determined;
- arrangements for education where the parents fail to pay the charge being levied by the school;
- the level of support from the school budget where the level of voluntary contributions is insufficient to fund the visit or journey;
- the maximum amount that can be used from the school's budget to support community facilities is the amount of the school standards grant allocation;
- any charge for a pupil activity should not exceed the actual cost. If further funds need to be raised to help in hardship cases, this must be voluntary
- for lettings, the charge should at least cover the cost, including:
 - Services (heat & light)
 - Staffing (security, caretaking & cleaning)
 - Administration
 - Wear & tear (sinking fund)

Remissions

(For any other charges which are to be made the policy must set out below the remissions which will apply to each charge. If charges are not to be made the corresponding remission does not exist).

Voluntary Contribution

Parents/individuals will be invited to make a voluntary contribution for the following:

a) Riding for the Disabled

A voluntary contribution of **£2.50** will be requested for RDA. No pupil will be excluded from riding if they are unable to contribute.

b) School Trips



A voluntary contribution may be requested. This will be a variable amount depending the cost of the outing. No pupil will be excluded from the trip if they are unable to contribute.

The terms of any request made to parents will specify that the request for a voluntary contribution and in no way represents a charge. In addition the following will be made clear to parents:

- a) that the contribution is genuinely voluntary and a parent is under no obligation to pay; and
- b) that registered pupils at the school will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution in response to the request.

School Dinners

In genuine hardship cases where a pupil may not normally be eligible for free school meals, Governors will consider subsidising via school funds, either partially or wholly, if monies are defaulted for longer than 4 weeks. The Headteacher will consult with the Governing Body in such a situation.

The costs of any optional extra undertaken by any pupil whose parents/guardians are unable to pay may not be included in the charge to other pupils but must be funded through the delegated budget, school fund or other fundraising.

The responsibility for determining the level of voluntary contribution is delegated to the head teacher.

Date of Policy approval Reviewed January 2015 & approved March 2015.
Reviewed & approved 16th March 2016.
Reviewed & approved 15th March 2017
Reviewed and approved 18th April 2018
Reviewed and approved 6th March 2019
Reviewed and approved 6th November 2019

Date of Policy review Spring 2020

Signature:Date:

(Headteacher)

Signature:Date:

(Chair)