



Charging and Remissions

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Approved by	Finance Committee
Last Review	September 2016
Next Review	September 2019

The school wishes to provide for all pupils the best possible educational opportunities available within the funds allocated by the Education Authority.

The law states very clearly that education during normal school hours is to be free of any compulsory charge to parents and the school warmly endorses that principle and is committed to uphold the legal requirements. It is recognised, however, that many educationally valuable activities have been and will continue to be dependent on financial contributions in whole or in part from parents. Without that financial support, the school would find it impossible to maintain the quality and breadth of the educational programme provided for pupils. The school's concern is to keep financial contributions to a reasonable minimum and to ensure as far as possible that all children are able to take part, irrespective of their circumstances.

The law recognises that charges may be made to parents in certain defined circumstances - provided that each school has identified the activities for which charges will be made and has explained the basis on which charges may be reduced or waived for certain pupils.

The Governors will seek voluntary contributions from parents for activities, visits and visitors arranged during school hours. Full charges may be made for visits out of school hours or for the cost of board, lodging and transport on any residential activity.

The Governors will only set charges in respect of equipment and materials if articles are being made by pupils for parents with their prior permission (Section 118 (3) ERA)¹.

Charges will be made for the cost of musical instrument tuition.

The head teacher will enter into discussion with individual families who have approached the school expressing difficulties regarding payments or contributions for in or out of school activities. The head teacher will explore alternative options for full or part payment as appropriate taking in to account individual circumstances.

The Governors will remit charges in respect of any pupil taking part in any activity classified as taking place during school hours, including any charge for board, lodging and transport on any residential activity, when their parents are in receipt of Income Support or other recognised benefit (Section 110 (3) ERA).

¹ Education Reform Act 1988

