

## Charging and Remissions Policy

As required by the 1988 Education Reform Act the school's charging policy must set out the provision and classes or descriptions of cases in which charges are to be made. The remissions policy must make clear the circumstances in which charges will be remitted in whole or part.

The statutory minimum is that the policy must provide complete remission of board and lodging charges to pupils whose parents receive either Income Support or Family Credit if the activity occurs during school hours or in certain circumstances out of school hours.

Charges will be made for:

- Materials or ingredients where parents have indicated in advance a wish to own the finished product.
- Entry for any public examination for which the student has not been prepared by the school but which the school has agreed to the student entering.
- Entry for any public examination for which a student has without good reason failed to complete the requirements eg non completion of coursework or non attendance at the examination. The full cost will be requested from parents.
- Transport from a student's home to any activity off the school premises which is not provided by the school, eg work experience. Parents will be asked to pay directly for any such transport.
- Board and lodging for **all** residential visits. Visits deemed to be mainly in school hours are subject to the Governing Body's remission statement. The charges will not exceed the actual cost for these elements of the visit.
- All costs for residential visits or other optional activities which are deemed to take place out of school hours and which are not required for public examination syllabus or for the provision of the National Curriculum or statutory Religion Education. Charges will not exceed the actual cost for these elements of the visit.
- Music tuition in or outside of school hours whether or not it is required for public examination purposes or for the National Curriculum. Students who would otherwise be prevented from participating in courses leading to public examinations or where there is temporary hardship will be reviewed by governors. Charging policy for music tuition is to be reviewed by Governors each term.
- Reparation to or replacement of school property if damage is caused by the actions of a student.

Voluntary contributions may be sought from parents for any school activity during or outside school hours, residential or non-residential.

- It will be clearly stated that there is no obligation to contribute.
- All students will be considered equally irrespective of the level of contribution made.
- A clear statement will be made to parents from the outset if an overall lack of support may lead to cancellation of the activity.
- The voluntary provision of specific items or materials for use in school may be also requested but no child will be disadvantaged because of a lack of contribution.

## Remissions

The Governing Body will remit charges in line with the level specified in the 1988 Education Reform Act. Students whose parents are in receipt of income support or Family Credit will be eligible for remission of board and lodging charges made as part of residential visits deemed to be in school hours or essential to either an examination syllabus or the National Curriculum.

In other cases of financial difficulty or hardship, parent representations may be made to the Principal by initially contacting the student's Key Stage Coordinator or Achievement Tutor.

The Governing Body does not propose to remit or subsidise any charge made by the Local Authority under its charging policy.