



Charging and Remissions Policy

Introduction

This policy relates to the DfES circular 2.89, which is concerned with charging for school activities. The principle underlying this circular is that education provided by any school for its registered pupils should be free if it takes place wholly or mainly during hours. We do however recognise that there are a number of activities which make a valuable contribution to a child's education both academically and socially. These include trips associated with topic work, visits from theatre groups, residential trips, etc. We wish to continue to provide such activities as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the children but realise that they make considerable inroads into the school budget. We therefore will reserve the right to charge for some activities and to ask for voluntary financial contributions from parents for others.

Charges

The school policy for charging for activities is as follows: -

1. Any activity which takes place wholly or mainly in school hours, excluding residential visits or individual tuition for music, will not be charged for. However, parents may be asked to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of such an activity. The full estimated cost of the activity will be divided by the number of pupils taking part. Any shortfalls will be reimbursed from School Funds. Children will not be excluded because parents cannot/are unwilling to contribute. If a number of parents do opt out of contributing towards these activities, it may be that they will not be financially viable and cease to operate.

These activities include –

- school trips
 - theatre visits
 - visits from theatre groups
2. Residential visits: parents will be asked to cover the cost of –
 - pupil's travel costs
 - external non-teaching staff costs
 - entrance fees to museums, castles etc
 - insurance costs

Again, if parents cannot/are unwilling to make contributions, such visits may cease to take place.

Remissions

Where there is a case of family hardship which make it difficult for pupils to take part in particular activities for which a charge is made, parents will be invited to apply in confidence for the remission of the charges in part or in full.