

# Charging Policy for School Activities

## 1. Charging

1.1. Aspects of charging for school activities are covered by the following statutes :-

- Education Act, 1996 – Sections 449-462
- Education (Residential Trip) (Prescribed Tax Credits) (England) Regulations 2003(SI 2003/381)

1.2. Under the charging provision of the 1996 Act, many choose to charge for certain defined activities, "but only if they have first drawn up a statement of their charging and remissions Policy".

## 2. Charging is permissible for the following areas of activity

2.1. Board and lodging on residential visits.

2.2. Costs associated with individual tuition in the playing of a music instrument or group tuition of not more than four pupils, whether in or out of school hours (unless it is provided as part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination or is required by the National Curriculum).

2.3. Activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours, but which are not provided as part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination and are not required in order to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum or to Religious Education.

2.4. The cost of entering a pupil for a public examination not presented in regulations, and for preparing the pupil for such an examination outside school hours.

2.5. Re-sits of prescribed public examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school.

2.6. Ingredients/materials for practical subjects where parents indicate that they (or the child) wish to own the finished product.

2.7. Contributions towards damage or loss of equipment or school property caused by pupils' behaviour.

2.8. For each of these areas, Governors have determined their policy on charging and remission.

2.9. In most cases, Governors will probably wish to charge the actual cost, but there may be cases where an individual's circumstances are such that a lower charge would be justified.

2.10. Similarly, Governors will be required to remit certain costs, for example, on residential visits where such visits fall within the definitions of the provision of education laid down in the Act, for those pupils whose parents are receiving:

2.10.1. Income Support;

2.10.2. Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;

2.10.3. Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;

2.10.4. Child Tax Credit (provided that Working Tax Credit is not also received and the families have an annual income, assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,105 in the financial year 2015/16;

2.10.5. The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit;

2.10.6. An income-related employment and support allowance that was introduced on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

In a few other cases, other remissions may be justified.

2.11. Remission of charges is at the discretion of the Governors.