

Charging and Remissions Policy

Version number	V2.0
Consultation groups	Advisory Board
Approved by	Deputy CEO
Approval date	September 2023
Policy/document owner	Head Teacher
Status	Statutory
Frequency of review	Annual
Next review date	September 2023
Applicable to	Whole school

Introduction

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that there is clarity over those items which the school will provide free of charge and for those items where there may be a charge.

Definition

The school day is defined as 8.30am – 2.30pm. The midday break does not form part of the school day.

Responsibilities

The Head Teacher will ensure that staff are familiar with and correctly apply the policy.
The Advisory Board will review the policy annually

Policy statement

In accordance with the Education Reform Act of 1988 and sections 449-462 of the Education Act, 1996 no charges are made for any books, materials, equipment or apparatus used during school hours. Academies are required to comply with this Act through their funding agreements.

Voluntary contributions may be sought for activities during the school day which entail additional costs such as school trips.

In these circumstances, no pupil will be prevented from participating because his/her parents cannot or will not make a contribution. [If insufficient funds are available it maybe necessary to curtail or cancel activities]

Uniform

All students are provided with 2 polo shirts and a jumper each year. They may purchase additional items from the office. Efforts to ensure uniform does not create unnecessary financial burden on families is set out further in our uniform policy.

Optional activities outside of the school day

No charge will be made for extended day activities, they are inclusive for all students.

School Meals

All students are offered breakfast, healthy snacks, a school lunch and evening meal if they are they access an appropriate afterschool activity. No charge will be made for school meals for any students.

Damage/ Loss to property

- A charge will be made in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of school property to include premises, furniture, equipment, books or materials. The charge will be the full cost or repair or replacement or a lower cost such as the Deputy Head Teacher may decide.
- A charge will be made in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of School property to include premises, furniture, equipment, books or materials belonging to a third party where the cost has been recharged to the School. The charge will be the full cost or repair or replacement or a lower cost such as the Deputy Head teacher may decide.

Residential Visits

Some residential trips may be free to students if they are part of the school incentives scheme and paid for by merits earned.

Voluntary contributions may be requested for board and lodging, except for pupils whose parents are in receipt of eligible benefits.

Educational Day Visits

No charge will be made in respect of day visits that take place to include curriculum enrichment trips.

Incentive Visits

Students will purchase incentive trips using their merits earned in school.

Minibus

Travel in the school mini-bus is free.

Music tuition

No charge will be made for music tuition

Materials and textbooks

No charge will be made for any materials, ingredients or textbooks

Examinations

No charge will be made for examinations, to include resits.

Calculating charges

Where charges are made for any activity, whether during or outside of the school day, they will be based on the actual costs incurred, divided by the total number of pupils participating. There will be no levy on those who can pay to support those who can't or won't. Support for cases of hardship will come through voluntary contributions and fundraising.

Parents who would qualify for support are those who are in receipt of eligible benefits. The principles of best value will be applied when planning activities that incur costs to the school and/or charges to parents.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually in consultation with the Advisory Board.