

Lickhill Primary School



Charging and Remissions Policy

Date of policy: September 2017

Ratified by the Governing Body on: 9th October 2017

Signed : *A. Bhardwaj* (Chair of Governors)

1. Rationale/Introduction

1.1 The legal framework relating to charging voluntary contributions and remissions is set out in sections 449 to 462 of the Education Act 1996. The basic principle governing the making of charges is that no charge shall be made for the provision of education to a registered pupil at a maintained or academy school during school hours.

2. Aims and Objectives

2.1 The aim of this policy is to clarify voluntary contributions, what is not to be charged for and what is.

2.2 It must be noted that without sufficient voluntary contributions, some events will need to be cancelled due to the financial implications.

3. Strategies/Implementation

3.1 Voluntary Contributions

The Governing Body of Lickhill Primary School may request voluntary contributions 'for the benefit of the school or any school activities'. These voluntary contributions will be sought for:

- Transport to off-site, after school sports activities i.e. tournaments etc;
- Transport to swimming pool costs;
- Day trips to museums, theatres;
- Visits from external providers that support and extend the curriculum;
- Activities additional to the basic national curriculum.

3.2 Residential trips

The full cost of a residential trip may be charged to parents. The board and lodging charge should reflect the cost of board and lodging and should be agreed with the pupils' parents prior to the trip. Individual payment arrangements can be made at the discretion of the Head Teacher.

3.3 Non-Residential trips

Staff can ask for a voluntary contribution as a means of covering the cost of such a trip.

3.4 Music Tuition

The general prohibition against charging for education provided during school hours does not apply to music tuition where this is provided either individually or to a group unless:

1. the tuition is required as part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination;
2. provided as part of the duty to implement the National Curriculum or to provide religious education as part of the basic curriculum.

Outside school hours, a charge may be made unless the tuition is provided as part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination which is a syllabus for which the pupil is being prepared at the school.

3.5 Leasing charges

Leasing charges can only be made for instruments, sheet music, etc. in respect of music tuition for which charges can be made. Otherwise they should be provided free of charge as being incidental to music tuition for which no charge is made.

3.6 Swimming

No charge may be made for swimming under the provisions of the Education act 1996 if the activity takes place within school hours. However, the school may seek voluntary contributions in order to cover the cost of transport to and from activities.

3.7 Equal opportunities and SEND

There is no obligation on parents to make a contribution and pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents are able to make a voluntary contribution. Where there is a short fall of costs, school will make up the difference, however it must be noted that this means that other activities may not be able to run due to financial restraints.

In some cases, pupils who are eligible for free school meals, may request support from pupil premium funding for activities after discussion with the Head Teacher.

4. Pre-school

For pre-school charging and remissions – please see specific policy for pre-school