Old Park Primary School & Nursery

Charging and remissions policy

Reviewed: **Autumn 2026**
Next Planned Review: **Autumn 2028**
Person responsible: **J Foster and K Ahrbaab**

Introduction

The policy is written to comply with the relevant terms of the Education Act 1996, the Education (School Sessions and Charges and Remissions Policies) and the guidance from the DFE "Charging for school activities" May 2018.

Sections 449-462 of the Education Act 1996 sets out the law on charging for school activities in schools maintained by local authorities in England. Academies (including free schools, studio schools and university technical colleges) are required through their funding agreements to comply with the law on charging for school activities.
The policy complements the information given in section 7.5 of the "Governors Handbook" and the DCST guidance Planning and Funding Extended Schools" and Charging for School Activities" (January 2009)

Key Point

- School cannot charge for education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)

Operating the policy

We believe that all our pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities and visits (curricular and extra-curricular) independent of their parents' financial means. This Charging and Remissions policy describes how we will do our best to ensure a good range of visits and activities is offered and, at the same time, try to minimise the financial barriers which may prevent some pupils taking full advantage of the opportunities.

As a school we plan our curriculum to offer real life experiences to children to extend their understanding of the world. We aim to provide a rich, broad and balanced curriculum where environmental visits and visitors into our school enrich our curriculum and our given a key, integral role.

Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If a trip goes ahead, it will include children whose parents have not paid any contribution.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, the child will participate fully in the trip or activity.

Pupil Premium

The cost of trips is subsidised both by school and the Pupil Premium Grant in order to keep costs to a minimum for all parents and carers.

Optional Extras

Occasionally there are activities organised or equipment/books provided where a charge may be made.

- Activities not related to the National Curriculum taking place 'out of school time' e.g. a show or concert.
- Visits that are a 'treat' and are not part of the curriculum.
- An after school activity that is not run by the school.
- Books or resources used for revision where a parent has indicated that they would like to keep the book.
- Materials used in craft subjects- subject to the parents/ carers having agreed in advance they wish to own the finished product.
- Items of school uniform with the school logo – can be purchased from the schools official supplier, Baker & Son Ltd in Wellington. Water bottles can be purchased from the main office. The prices for these are on display at the main office, school website and for uniform on the Baker & Son website (www.bakerandsonschoolwear.co.uk).
- A part of school's disciplinary code- Parents/ carers will be asked to meet or contribute towards the costs of damage to or loss of school property arising out of individual pupils' behaviour where blame is established.
- Board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit.
- Extended day services offered to pupils (for example, breakfast club and after-school club).

Residential Visits

The school will charge for Board and Lodgings and the charge will not exceed the actual cost.

No charge will be made to parents and carers in receipt of:

- Universal Credit in prescribed circumstances
- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Support under Part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, providing Working Tax Credit is not also received and the family's income does not exceed the current advised figure
- Guaranteed element of the State Pension credit
- An Income Related Employment and Support Allowance that was introduced on 27th October 2008.

(For residential visits to the Arthog Outdoor education centre only- parents in receipt of Working Tax credit with an annual income, as assessed by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed the current advised figure, will also qualify for remission of board and lodging charges as described above.)

This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body every other year. Next review Autumn 2028.