

CHARGING & REMISSIONS POLICY

DATE RATIFIED	10/04/2022
NEXT REVIEW DATE	Spring 2023

INTRODUCTION

This policy statement on Charging and Remissions for certain activities and visits has been produced in accordance with the 1998 Education Reform Act.

The Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, visits and residential experiences can make towards pupils' personal and social education.

The Governing Body aims to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for pupils of Ravenbank School and as additional optional activities.

The school makes several educational visits during the course of the year to support and enrich the teaching of the National Curriculum. These visits should not be regarded as a compulsory element of the school's educational provision, but as a desirable extension of provision on a voluntary basis, including the good will of the Teaching Staff and parent helpers. These visits are expensive and neither the school nor the Governors are able to provide the money needed, so the visits cannot take place without the support of parents.

The policy for Charging and Remissions reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole governing body and has the full agreement of the teaching staff.

ENTITLEMENT

All registered pupils at Ravenbank School have the right to education free of charge if it takes place wholly or mainly during school hours.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

However, the Governors and school have the right to invite voluntary contributions to support activities (e.g. ingredients for cookery) and visits organised by the school to enrich and extend the curriculum during school hours.

For those activities which take place wholly or mostly within the school day, we ask for "voluntary contributions" to cover the cost. All children will be included in the activity, regardless of parents' willingness or ability to help meet the cost. Unfortunately, we have to reserve the right to cancel visits if there are insufficient contributions. All monies will be returned. The school quite naturally looks to the continued support of parents in this matter, thus enabling such worthwhile visits and activities to continue.

If parents have any financial problems, they are asked to contact the Headteacher, in confidence.

CHARGING

The Governors and school have the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours.

RESIDENTIAL VISITS

The board and lodging element of Residential Visits that are mainly in school time will be charged at cost. Voluntary contributions will be sought for the other elements of the visit, eg Transport, Admissions, Insurance, etc.

Visits that are mainly out of school time (eg weekend residential visits) will be charged at cost (Board, Lodgings, Transport, Admissions, Insurance, etc). Any cancellations will be charged in line with the cancellation policy of the venue being visited.

REMISSIONS

There may be cases of family hardship, which makes it difficult for pupils to take part in particular activities for which a charge is made. In these cases, parents must see the Headteacher in confidence: authorisation for remission of the whole or part of the charges will be made by the Headteacher.