

# **Ore Village Primary Academy**



## **Charging and Remissions Policy 2019**

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that, during the school day, all children have full and free access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

The school day is defined as: 8.45 – 3.10pm

### **What was consulted?**

The policy has been informed by A Guide to the Law for School Governors.

### **Relationship to other school policies**

The policy complements the academy's equal opportunities policy, curriculum policy and teaching and learning policy

### **Roles and responsibilities of Headteacher, other staff and governors**

The Headteacher will ensure that the following applies:

#### **During the school day**

All activities that are a necessary part of the National Curriculum plus religious education will be provided free of charge. This includes any materials, equipment and transport to take pupils between the school and the activity. It excludes charges made for teaching individual pupils or groups of up to four pupils to play a musical instrument.

Voluntary contributions may be sought for activities during the school day which entail additional costs, for example art or cookery.

In these circumstances no pupil will be prevented from participating because his/her parents cannot or will not make a contribution. Children of parents who do not make a contribution will not be treated any differently. If a particular activity cannot take place without some help from parents, this will be explained at the planning stage. An activity may be cancelled if not enough voluntary contributions are collected.

From time to time we may invite a non-school based organisation such as theatre groups to arrange an activity during the school day. Such organisations may wish to charge parents, who may, if they wish, ask the Headteacher to agree to their child being absent for that period.

## Optional activities outside of the school day

We will charge for optional, extra activities provided outside of the school day. Such activities are not part of the National Curriculum or religious education, nor are they part of an examination syllabus.

## Education partly during the school day

If a non-residential activity happens partly inside the school day and partly outside of it, there will be no charge if most of the time to be spent on the activity falls within the school day.

Conversely, if the bigger proportion of time spent falls outside of the normal school day, charges will be made. When such activities are arranged parents will be told how the charges were calculated.

## Residential Trips

Charges will be made for board and lodging, except for pupils whose parents are in receipt of one of the following:

- Income Support,
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit **without** working tax credit
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

**AND** have an annual gross income of below £16190

Other charges will be made to cover costs when the number of school sessions missed by the pupils total half or more of the number of half-days taken up by the activity. In such cases parents will be told how the charges were calculated.

## Calculating charges

When 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. 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 one of the following:

- Income Support,
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit without **working** tax credit
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

**AND** have an annual gross income of below £16190

The principles of best value will be applied when planning activities that incur costs to the school and/or charges to parents. The charges may include an element for: Travel costs, Pupils board and lodging (except in the circumstances mentioned above), Entrance fees, Insurance costs etc.

### **Acts of vandalism and negligence**

The Headteacher/ Governing Body reserve the right to recover part, or the whole cost, of damage to buildings or equipment which is the result of vandalism or negligence by a pupil.

### **Remission**

The Governing Body may remit charges in full or in part to other parents after considering other specific hardship cases. The Governing Body invites parents to apply, in the strictest confidence, for the remission of charges in part or in full. The Headteacher will authorise remission in consultation with the Chair of Governors.

### **Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation**

The Local Governing Body will monitor the impact of this policy by receiving on a termly basis, a financial report on those activities that resulted in charges being levied, the subsidies awarded (without giving names) and the source of those subsidies.