

The Aspire Federation
William Hildyard Church of England Primary and Nursery School and
St. George's Church of England Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy 2021

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual or group music tuition and Sports lessons run by a third party.

This document encompasses remission arrangements in the following circumstances:

- Where a pupil is in receipt of benefits-related free school meals.
- Where the above does not necessarily apply but where a convincing appeal is made to the Executive Headteacher.

The Pupil Premium fund will be used to meet contributions for any pupil in receipt of free school meals. The Subsidy will cover 50% of any charge for educational day visits. This does not include residential educational visits.

Where a parent puts forward a convincing case for a greater subsidy to be granted, the remission may consist of part or all of the fees, according to circumstance. All questions of remission will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

School Activities

The governors wish to ensure that all pupils have access to all areas of the life of the school, regardless of the parents' ability to pay.

In the event of activities organised by the school during school hours involving a direct cost to the school, voluntary contributions are sought from the parents to cover the cost of these activities. No child is excluded from participating in the activities because of non-payment of the contribution, but it is usually necessary for a substantial number of parents to contribute before the activity can go ahead.

In the case of activities partly during the school day, and partly out of school hours, charges will be made for the time outside school hours, and for board and lodging on a residential school journey.

The Executive Headteacher and governors will consider sympathetically cases of genuine financial need and remit charges where appropriate.

Voluntary contributions

When organising school educational visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school activity, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the event.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- musical events.

Residential visits

The school organises residential visits in school time (or mainly school time), which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the cost of school staff attending the visit or the education they provide. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of activities provided by other organisations and for board, lodging and transport.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach extra curricula individual or small group lessons. A charge is made for these lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year. Parents of Looked-After Children, Post Looked-After Children or Service Children may be exempt from payment of this if the child is seen to have a talent in this area.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We ask for a voluntary contribution toward the cost of hiring the pool, instructors and transport if required. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

Behaviour issues

If a child breaks something intentionally then a discussion will be had between the Executive Headteacher and parents to discuss replacement.