



St Peter at Gowts Church of England Primary School

Policy	Charging and Remissions
Date adopted	July 2014
Date reviewed	September 2015

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the national curriculum during school hours. However voluntary contributions can be requested to support any activities which support the curriculum.

Educational day visits

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school asks parents for voluntary contributions towards the cost of the trips. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient contributions we may have to cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution as we do not treat these children differently from others. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded and school will provide this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school which requires voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:

- Visits to museums and educational centres
- Sporting activities which require transport expenses
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to the theatre
- Musical events
- Professional performances
- Science workshops
- Drama workshops
- Music workshops

Residential visits

When the school organises a residential visit, that is mainly in school hours and provides education directly related to the National curriculum, we ask parents to make a voluntary contribution for the education and travel expenses. However we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Parents who receive state benefits are exempt from payment but school welcomes voluntary donations from them whenever possible.

For a residential visit which is mainly not during school hours, we charge for travel expenses education, board and lodging.

Remissions

Section 457 of the Education Act 1996 states where a parent is in receipt of prescribed benefits or allowances, their child is entitled to free board and lodging on a residential trip.

The prescribed benefits are;

- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- Child Tax Credit, provided the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income does not exceed a limit specified annually by the LEA
- Guaranteed State Pension Credit.

Parents wishing to seek remission of charges for a residential visit must speak to the Headteacher before requesting a place on the visit.

Actual cost

Charges made to parents will not exceed the actual cost of the activity in order, for example, to raise additional funds to cover any short fall caused by parents opting not to contribute, although there is nothing to prevent other parents making a voluntary contribution over and above that cost.

Charging Parents for breakages and fines

The school will ask parents to pay a voluntary contribution towards the cost of replacing a broken window or a defaced, damaged or lost textbook etc. where this is the result of a pupil's behaviour.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons. These take place in school time and are part of the national curriculum. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place. Parents are asked to make a voluntary donation to support travel costs. Any shortfall is made up from main school budget.

For this academic year voluntary contribution requested is £3.50 per session.

Hot School Meals

Parents wishing their child to have a hot school meal may purchase them in advance for £2.30 per meal.