



Policy:	Charging & Remissions Policy
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Issued: March 2015

Next Review Date: March 2018

CHARGING POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Thameside Primary School seeks to promote additional and enriching activities for its pupils. This is not always possible within the resources provided for the school. In addition, the 1996 Education Act forbids charging for some activities and permits it for others. This is the Governors' Statement of their charging policy based on that Act.

AIM

To operate a fair system of known charges, remissions and exemptions.

BROAD GUIDELINES

To charge for board and lodging for residential activities taking place largely during school time except for pupils whose parents receiving Income Support, Family Credit, Disability Working Allowance or an income-based Jobseeker's Allowance. Unless the activity is a compulsory exam requirement.

1. To levy a charge for activities wholly or mainly outside school hours which are not part of the National Curriculum, statutory Religious Education or in preparation for a prescribed public examination.
2. Charges may be made for teaching either an individual pupil or groups of up to four to play a musical instrument, if the teaching is not an essential part of either the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil.
3. Charges may be made for the cost of material for such subjects as Craft, Design and Technology, Food Technology and Art when the finished article is to be owned by the parents or the pupils.
4. To levy no charge in respect of books, materials, equipment, instruments or incidental transport provided in connection with the National Curriculum, statutory Religious Education or in preparation for prescribed public examinations or courses taught at the school, except where parents have indicated in advance their wish to purchase the product.
5. To request voluntary contributions from parents for school activities in or out of school time for which compulsory charges cannot be levied but which can only be provided if there is sufficient voluntary funding, whilst ensuring that no pupil is excluded from such activity by reason of inability or unwillingness to make a voluntary contribution.
6. Enrichment activities (theatre trips, social activities etc outside of normal school hours): The full rate is charged for these activities which includes entrance charges (ticket costs), transport and staffing costs.
7. Enrichment activities (foreign exchange visits, cultural visits, etc.): the full rate must be charged for all these activities and must include travel and staffing costs.
8. To seek payment or fines from parents/guardians for breakages or damage to or loss of school property caused wilfully or negligently by their children.
9. To leave to the Head's decision the proportion of costs of an activity that should be charged to public or non-public funds.
10. To delegate to the Head the determination of any individual case arising from the implementation of this policy.
11. To encourage general fund-raising and sponsorship activities in support of the school by the school or other bodies.

Approved by Trust March 2015