



Witton Middle School

Charging & Remissions Policy

INTRODUCTION

The Education Reform Act 1988 establishes the rights of parents/carers to free education and prevents schools from charging for education in school hours (with some exceptions).

REQUIREMENTS OF THE ACT

- To maintain the right to free education.
- To establish that activities offered wholly or mainly during the school normal teaching time should be available to all pupils regardless of their parents'/carers' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
- To confirm the right of the Local Authority and school to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school, or in support of any activity organised by the school whether during or outside school hours.

POLICY OF THE GOVERNING BODY

It is the policy of the Governing Body, Headteacher and staff of the school to encourage a wide variety of activities for the pupils which will enrich the basic education provided in this school. Some activities are dependent, either partly or wholly, on voluntary contributions from parents/carers.

It is the policy of the school to request voluntary contributions to support the following additional activities. Specific requests will be made to cover the cost of individual activities, taking into account the full range of planned activities:-

1. Educational Visits

Voluntary contributions are requested for all educational visits.

2. Activities during school

Occasionally, outside groups or speakers are invited to school to perform to the children. Where this is the case, and a charge is levied, parents/carers will be asked for voluntary contributions, as for educational visits.

3. Residential Activities

Voluntary contributions will be requested for board, lodging and transport costs for residential activities (except where remissions are applicable).

4. A finished product

Voluntary contributions will be requested for a finished product (eg from Design Technology or Art lessons) provided parents/carers have agreed in advance.

It is the policy of the Governing Body to request, from parents/carers, the full costs associated with the following activities (except where remissions are applicable):-

Music Tuition

Costs associated with music tuition (but not if part of the National Curriculum).

APPLICATION OF FUNDS

- No pupil will be left out of an activity because a voluntary contribution cannot or will not be paid.
- If insufficient voluntary contributions are received to fund an event, it may not be able to take place. This will normally be explained to parents/carers at the planning stage.
- Attendance at all such events may be subject to availability of places, or (at the Headteacher's discretion), limited to particular groups. This would normally be explained to parents/carers at the planning stage.
- Any pupil can also be excluded as part of the school's normal disciplinary procedures.

REMISSION OF CHARGES

Under certain circumstances, some charges may be remitted in respect of children who are entitled to free school meals at the discretion of the Headteacher.

BREAKAGES

Parents/carers will be asked to pay for the cost of damage which is deliberate or the result of a pupil's lack of control (eg the cost of replacing a broken window or a defaced, damaged or lost book).

Prepared by: Headteacher/Business Manager Responsibility of: Headteacher/Business Manager

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This Policy was prepared giving due regard to the disabilities and/or special education needs, age, race, religion or belief, sex/sexual orientation, gender/gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity of the children and staff at Witton Middle School and its community.

This Policy appears on the school website.