Charging and Remissions Policy

Harvington C of E First and Nursery School

Written by R.Enstone
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Governors Responsibility: Finance

Charging and Remissions Policy

Under the Education Act 1996, schools are not allowed to charge for the provision of education to a registered pupil at a maintained school during school hours. There are, however, a number of exceptions to this rule, which are described below.

Voluntary Contributions

We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. The school may request voluntary contributions towards the costs of some activities. Examples of such activities include, but are not limited to:

- Visits to museums, theatres, places of interest
- Sporting activities which require transport expenses
- Musical events
- Visits to school by external speakers, theatre groups

No child will be excluded from the activity if their parent/carer is unable or unwilling to pay, but the school may decide to cancel the activity if insufficient voluntary contributions are received. If the activity is cancelled, all voluntary contributions received will be refunded.

Transport

The school cannot charge for transport provided in connection with an educational visit. However, the school may ask for voluntary contributions towards the cost of the transport and may cancel the visit if insufficient contributions are received.

Optional Extras

The school will levy charges to cover its costs for activities that are considered to be "optional extras", i.e. activities that do not form part of the National Curriculum. Participation in such activities will be on the basis of parental choice and willingness to meet the charges.

Music Tuition

Small-group or individual music tuition, supplied by specialist instrumental or vocal teachers, is not part of the National Curriculum, and is considered to be an "optional extra" (see above). The school will levy a charge to cover the cost of such tuition.

Residential Trip

The residential trip is considered to be an "optional extra", and the school will levy a charge to cover the costs of the trip. Any parent/carer may request a partial remission of the charges (see below), and the school will endeavour to find sources of alternative funding to assist parents/carers who may be having difficulty in meeting the charges.

Remission of charges

For an activity where the school levies a charge, any parent/carer may request a full or partial remission of the charges. The Headteacher will authorise any remission. All remission requests will be kept confidential.

Wilful Damage or Loss

If a pupil wilfully damages school property or loses school equipment, they or their parent/carer may be asked to make an appropriate contribution to compensate for the loss or damage.