



**pathfield**  
SCHOOL

Inspiring interaction

## **CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY**

Adopted by Governors	<b>Vanessa Billing</b>
Date	<b>15.06.17</b>
Review Date: (Annual)	<b>Summer 2018</b>
Policy/Procedure checked by/date	<b>Jackie Hamill May 2017</b>

Pathfield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This policy will support, promote and be applied with due regard to the requirements of the **SENTIENTRUS**  
inspire • empower • enable

# CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

## **Introduction**

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that there is clarity over those items which the school will provide free of charge and for those items where there may be a charge.

The policy has been informed by the Local Authority policy and the DFE guidance and complements the school's Educational Visits Policy, Curriculum Policy both Primary and Secondary.

## **Definition**

The school day is defined as: 09:00 to 15:15. (9am to 3.15pm). The midday break does not form part of the school day.

## **Responsibilities**

The headteacher will ensure that staff are familiar with and correctly apply the policy.

The Governors will review the policy annually.

## **Policy statement**

During the school day all activities that are a necessary part of the National Curriculum plus religious education will be provided free of charge. This includes any materials, equipment and transport to take pupils between the school and the activity. It excludes charges made for teaching an individual pupil or groups of up to four pupils to play a musical instrument. Unless the teaching is an essential part of either the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil(s), we will make a charge.

Voluntary contributions may be sought for activities during the school day which entail additional costs, for example: horse-riding, entrance fees, leavers' prom, theatre visits, etc. In these circumstances no pupil will be prevented from participating because his/her parents cannot or will not make a contribution. [If insufficient funds are available it maybe necessary to curtail or cancel activities]

From time to time we may invite a non-school based organisation to arrange an activity during the school day. Such organisations may wish to charge parents, who may, if they wish, ask the headteacher to agree to their child being absent for that period.

## **Optional activities during the school day**

We will charge for optional extra activities provided during the school day, for example, surfing trip. Such activities are not part of the National Curriculum or religious education nor are they part of an examination syllabus. In these circumstances pupil's not taking part in the activity will follow an alternative/normal timetable.

## **Optional activities outside of the school day**

We will charge for optional, extra activities provided outside of the school day, for example, after school clubs or a theatre visit. Such activities are not part of the National Curriculum or religious education nor are they part of an examination syllabus.

## **Education partly during the school day**

If a non-residential activity happens partly inside the school day and partly outside of it, there will be no charge if most of the time to be spent on the activity falls within the school day. Conversely, if the bigger proportion of time spent falls outside of the normal school day, charges may be made. When such activities are arranged parents will be told how the charges were calculated.

## **Residentials**

Charges will be made for board and lodging, except for pupils whose parents are in receipt of eligible benefits – (we would advise parents that this may be available). Written evidence must be submitted to the Headteacher prior to the residential activity place being agreed for a pupil.

Other charges will be made to cover costs when the number of school sessions missed by the pupils totals half or more of the number of half-days taken up by the activity. In such cases parents will be told how the charges were calculated.

## **Minibus**

Travel in the school mini-bus is free, apart from after-school clubs where a charge may be made.

## **Calculating charges**

When charges are made for any activity, whether during or outside of the school day, they will be based on the actual costs incurred, divided by the total number of pupils participating. There will be no levy on those who can pay to support those who can't or won't. Support for cases of hardship will come through voluntary contributions and fundraising. The Pathfield School Fund would be the identified funding stream in these circumstances (see separate document 'use of the School Fund').

Parents who would qualify for support are those who are in receipt of eligible benefits.

The principles of best value will be applied when planning activities that incur costs to the school and/or charges to parents.

## **Music Tuition**

In cases of hardship the governors will consider in their absolute discretion the remission of fees (either in full or in part) for those pupils who they consider will benefit from such tuition.

## **Eligible benefits**

Eligibility for remission of charges will be assessed by the school under the same criteria as is used for awarding free school meals to a pupil.