

Platt C.E Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy



Platt Primary School understands the requirement placed on school Governors with regard to charging for school activities and the Charging Policy is written with reference to the following documents:

- DES Circular 2/89
- Education Act 1996, sections 402,450 – 458, 460
- The Education (School Sessions and Charges and Remissions Policies) (Information) (England) Regulations 1999

POLICY AIMS

The aims of our Charging Policy are:

- To adhere to the right of free school education
- To enable all pupils to take full advantage of the enriched curriculum provided by the school

POLICY OBJECTIVES

The objectives of our Charging Policy are:

- To ensure that activities offered in school time should be available to all pupils regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to meet the cost
- To identify those activities for which charges may be levied
- To determine which charges will be remitted for parents experiencing hardship
- To invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school in support of any activity organised by the school, either in or out of school hours
- To ensure that the responsibilities for the charging policy are clearly and appropriately allocated •

To ensure the regular review of the operation of the Charging Policy

CHARGING

Charging for Activities During School Hours (including residential trips)

The Governors of Platt Primary school agree that:

- Where possible the cost of ingredients or materials will be taken from the School Voluntary Fund.
- A charge will be levied for the provision of peripatetic tuition to individual pupils by the organisation providing the tuition.
- A charge should be levied for the board, lodging, travel, tuition and charged elements of an activity, where the school trip takes place mainly during school hours. This may also include the cost of necessary supply cover in school incurred as a result of the school trip being undertaken.
- With the exception of private extra curricula (French, Gymnastics, Dance and Music and any other as they are offered) tuition, all charges for activities during school hours are regarded as voluntary contributions. This must be made clear in all requests for money.
- The school retains the right to cancel any activity if insufficient funds are available.
- The Headteacher is responsible for deciding for which activities a voluntary contribution should be sought.

Charges for individual pupils may not;

- Exceed the cost of providing the 'optional extra' activity divided by the number of participating pupils (i.e. must not incur a profit).
- Include an unreasonable element of subsidy for pupils whose parents wish them to participate but are unwilling or unable to pay.
- Include the cost of an alternative provision for other pupils who do not wish to participate, where a small part of the activity takes place in school hours.

On occasions, the Governors of Platt Primary School will not charge for activities where parents are experiencing hardship. Parents will be advised to contact the Headteacher.

The Governors also delegate power to the Chair of Finance and Headteacher to determine any individual case arising from the implementation of the policy.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

At Platt Primary School, we will also recommend voluntary contributions from parents of £15 for the first child and £10 for each subsequent child per year. All funds received will be kept in the School Enrichment account and used for enriching the curriculum.

- Parents will be asked to pay their voluntary contributions to the Governors' Fund. This enables Gift Aid to be recovered by the Governors. The school may ask for a donation from this fund towards the cost of activities to enrich the curriculum.

We recognise that;

- Such contributions are voluntary and no parent is under any obligation to make a contribution
- Pupils will not be treated differently if their parents have not made a contribution
- Parents will be informed of the level of contribution required. Parents will be advised that if insufficient funds are received, the activity might not take place.