

Belle Vue Primary & Nursery School

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

Aim

The aim of this policy is to set out what charges will be levied for activities, what remissions will be implemented and the circumstances under which voluntary contributions will be requested from parents.

Responsibilities

The Governing Body of the school are responsible for determining the content of this policy and the Headteacher for implementation. Any determination with respect to individual parents will be considered jointly by the Headteacher and Governing Body.

Prohibition of Charges

The Governing Body of the School recognise that legislation prohibits charges for the following;

- Education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)
- Education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education.
- Tuition for pupils learning to play musical instruments if the tuition is required as part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education.
- Entry for a prescribed public examination, if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school.
- Examination resits if the pupil is being prepared for the resit at the school.
- Education provided on any trip that takes place during school hours.

- Education provided on any trip that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education.
- Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential trip.
- Transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local education authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport.
- Transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing body or local education authority has arranged for pupils to be educated.
- Transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he or she has been prepared for that examination at the school.
- Transport provided in connection with an educational trip.
- Swimming lessons as part of the curriculum

Charges

- Board and lodging on residential visits (not to exceed the costs)
- The proportionate costs for an individual child of activities wholly or mainly outside school hours, to meet the costs for:
 - Travel
 - Materials and equipment
 - Non-teaching staff costs
 - Entrance fees
 - Insurance costs
- Vocal and musical instrument tuition.
- Re-sits for public examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school.
- Examination fees where a pupil fails without good reason to sit the exam
- Any other education, transport or examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school

- Any other education, transport or examination fee unless charges are specifically prohibited
- Breakages and replacements as a result of damages caused willfully or negligently by pupils
- Extra-curricular activities and school clubs
- Any extended school activity /Wrap Around Care
- Damage/vandalism/loss to and of school property
- Community Use / Lettings. (Arrangements for the letting of school premises and charges are contained in the Letting Charges Policy)
- A school lunch - if a child has forgotten or is unable to find their lunch, a meal will be provided by the kitchen and the charge should be paid by the parent on the next working day
- Photocopying

Remission

Children whose parents are in receipt of the following support payments will, on addition to having a free school lunch entitlement, also be entitled to the remission of:

- A percentage of the charges for board and lodging costs during residential school trips, to be determined by the Headteacher. Where the cost of board and lodging cannot be determined, the Headteacher will decide on the contribution to be paid.

The relevant support payments are;

- Universal Credit – and your household income is less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

- Working Tax Credit Run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Voluntary Contributions ('optional extras')

Parents will be invited to make a voluntary contribution for the following;

- a) Trips and visits arranged during the school day, including transport.
- b) Special activities arranged at school e.g., Animal Man, theatre groups
- c) Outdoor adventure activities
- d) Musical events not funded by school
- e) Travel costs for swimming
- f) Materials and ingredients where the child is able to take the finished article home

Pupil Premium (ever 6)

The school receives funding, known as Pupil Premium, which is to help raise the achievement of children who have been in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) within a 6 year period (not necessarily current).

Pupils eligible for Pupil Premium, including Looked After Pupil Premium, will be entitled the same remissions as those on Free School Meals.

Looked-after children

Academic incentives for Looked After Pupil Premium children such as book tokens shall be awarded periodically, at the discretion of the Headteacher.

Other allowances will be made as agreed at the annual PEP review (Personal Education Plan)

Parents should be aware:

- a) that the contribution is genuinely voluntary and a parent is under no obligation to pay
- b) If insufficient contributions are made, the trip may need to be cancelled. The individual cost of a trip is calculated using the number of children eligible to attend and non- payment may make that trip not viable.

b) that registered pupils at the school will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution in response to the request

The responsibility for determining the level of voluntary contribution is delegated to the Headteacher.

Voluntary contributions will be used to;

- Offset additional costs to the school in offering the enhanced opportunities listed above.

Refunds

Refunds for trips where a child was unable to attend will be considered but may not always be possible, e.g. when theatre tickets have been purchased and when the cost of the coach has already been divided by the number of children initially attending a trip.

Refunds are not guaranteed and will be considered on an individual basis.