

Eastbury Community School

Charging and remissions policy

April 2016

Introduction

We want all our pupils to have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities, both on and off site, within and outside the curriculum, regardless of their family's financial means. This policy sets out our school approach to charging and remissions, and is informed by national and local guidance. In doing this our intention is to ensure transparency in setting charges and ensure all children are able to access all the provision on offer.

This policy does not apply to charges made and determined by other organisations offering activities and services on the school premises. However, a Transfer of Control Agreement may be used to manage such charges.

1	Admissions	No charge will be made for admission.
2	School meals	No charge will be made for pupils entitled to free school meals.
		<i>We will charge all pupils not entitled to free school meals an amount determined by the local authority, contractor or governing body of the school, as appropriate.</i>
		Recovery of debts relating to school meals will be recovered in line with the School Meal Debt Policy. Exceptions to this rule will be at the discretion of the Headteacher.
3	Public examinations	No charge will be made for the entry fee if the examination is on the set list and the pupil has been prepared at the school.
		<i>Where supported by school, we will not charge parents for the entry fee if the examination is on the set list, but the pupil was not prepared for it at school. Any pupil that wishes to re-sit an examination, the fee will be payable by the parent. Special arrangements may be considered by the Headteacher.</i>
		<i>Where supported by school, we will not charge parents the entry fee if the examination is not on the set list, but school has arranged for the pupil to take it</i>
		<i>We may charge parents the examination fee if a pupil fails without good reason to complete the requirements of a public examination where the school originally paid the entry fee. This will be decided by the headteacher.</i>
4	Activities for pupils that take place during school hours (‘School hours’ are those when school is actually in session and do not include the break in the middle of the school day)	No charge will be made for activities provided during school hours (with the exception of music tuition – see Section 8).
		No charge will be made for transport during school hours e.g. to swimming, sports fixtures. The school does not contribute towards travel costs for work placements and work experience.
		<i>A charge will be made to cover the cost of ingredients or materials where parents/guardians have confirmed in advance that they wish to own the finished product.</i>
5	Activities for pupils that take place outside school hours (non-residential)	<p>No charge will be made for an activity that takes place outside school hours when it is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a necessary part of the curriculum part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school e.g. revision and booster classes part of the school’s basic curriculum for religious education <p><u>Optional extras</u> <i>We may charge for some other activities that take place outside school hours. The Headteacher will decide which activities we make a charge for. The levels of charge (including any remissions) will be set annually on the recommendation of the Headteacher and the finance committee</i></p>

		<p>Where we make a charge, the total collected will not exceed the cost of providing the activity and no parent will be asked to subsidise the cost to other pupils by paying more than an amount equal to the total cost of the activity divided by the number of pupils participating.</p> <p>Costs we can legally recover are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> teaching staff engaged under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra, this includes supply teachers engaged specifically to provide the optional extra non-teaching staff any materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in connection with the optional extra transport to an activity outside school hour
6	School resources	<p>Students will be expected to provide essential school equipment, i.e. pens, pencils, etc.</p> <p>Classroom resources will be provided by the school. However, some courses will require parents to pay a deposit, i.e. a deposit is returned upon receipt of the book at the end of the course.</p> <p>The governing body may charge a fee for complying with requests, as calculated in accordance with FoIA regulations. If a charge is to be made, the school will give notice to the applicant before supplying the information requested.</p>
7	Activities that take place partly during school hours either on or off site (Non-residential).	<p>Where the majority of time spent on a non-residential activity is within school hours, we must treat the activity as if it is fully within school hours, and will apply the same criteria to charging as set out in section 4.</p> <p>If the majority of the time spent on a non-residential activity is outside school hours, we must treat the activity as if it happens fully outside school hours, <i>and will apply the same criteria to charging as set out in section 5.</i></p>
8	Residentials	<p>Residentials are classified as being within school hours if the number of school sessions missed by the pupils is at least 50% of the number of half days spent on the trip.</p> <p><u>Board and lodging</u> <i>We will charge pupils an amount up to the full cost of board and lodging on residentials whether it is classified as taking place within or outside school hours EXCEPT where pupils are legally entitled to remission. In such cases no charge will be made for board and lodging. (See section 11 of guidance for details of legal entitlements to remissions)</i></p> <p><u>Travel</u> If the residential is classified as being within school hours, no charge will be made for travel costs (legal requirement), although, a voluntary contribution may be sought. <i>Where the residential is classified as being outside school hours, a charge will be made for travel to cover the unit cost per pupil other than those entitled to remissions (but no paying pupil will be required to subsidise the cost of non-paying pupils).</i></p> <p><u>Activities on residential</u> If the residential is classified as being within school hours no charge can legally be made for the educational activities provided. <i>If the residential is classified as being outside school hours, a charge will be made for the educational activities provided (see section 5).</i></p>

9	Music tuition within school hours	No charge will be made if the music tuition is an essential part of the national curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil (including instrument hire, music books etc).		
		No charge will be made for the first programme in which the whole class engages with the KS2 Programme of Instrumental and Vocal Tuition (Wider Opportunities). This includes instrument hire, music books etc.		
		No charge will be made for instrumental and vocal tuition within school hours for any children (including instrument hire, music books etc).		
10	Childcare and providing a safe place to be	We will not charge families for any extended school activities before and after school (and during school holidays). If breakfast provision is provided, we will charge a set amount to cover the cost of the provision.		
11	Damage to property and breakages	<i>We may seek to recover some or all of the costs incurred due to wilful damage or breakage of school property. This will be determined by the headteacher.</i>		
		<i>We may seek to recover some or all of the costs incurred due to wilful damage or breakage of property belonging to a third party where the school has been charged. This will be determined by the headteacher.</i>		
12	Remissions and concessions	We will comply with legal requirements for remissions as outlined throughout this document, for pupils defined as eligible in section 11.		
		<i>We may choose to subsidise, in full or part, charges for certain activities and pupils, as determined by the Governing Body, advised by the Headteacher. The circumstances in which concessions are applied will be reviewed regularly.</i>		
13	Voluntary contributions	<i>We may in certain circumstances invite parents to make a voluntary contribution towards activities that are exempt from charging.</i>		
		Where we do ask for voluntary contributions, we will make it clear that children of parents who choose not to contribute will not be treated differently from those who do. No pupil will be excluded from the activity if their parents do not contribute.		
		If an activity cannot go ahead without sufficient voluntary contributions, this will be explained to parents when the contribution is requested. If the activity has to be cancelled due to insufficient funds, all monies received will be returned to parents.		
14	Lettings	We will seek to charge different hourly rates according to the type of usage, and for concurrent and non-concurrent users. The responsibilities and liabilities of recurring users will be covered by a Transfer of Control Agreement, in line with the borough guidance. Private functions are charged £120 per hour Saturday/Sunday for the use of the Main Hall. £100 per hour Saturday/Sunday for the use of the Dining Hall (as per our Lettings Policy).		
		Type of usage	Concurrent (£)	Non-concurrent (£)
		Community/ faith group	N/A	N/A
	Voluntary sector organisation	Free (a charge is applicable for refreshments requested)	Free (a charge is applicable for refreshments requested)	

		Local authority/ public service	Free (a charge is applicable for refreshments requested)	Free (a charge is applicable for refreshments requested)
		Private individual/ organisation	£55 per hour	N/A

Signed: Chair of Finance Committee _____

Chair of Governors _____

Date: _____