

Whimble Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy



In general education is provided free of charge but, as permitted by the Education Reform Act 1988, the Devon Policy provides for Charges and Remissions as follows:-

A) Charging Policy

1. Music tuition provided by private individuals, including choir - parents enter into an agreement with the music tutor and will be billed directly by them.
2. For materials used in school where the parent indicates in advance that he, or the pupil, wishes to own the finished article incorporating those materials the Headteacher should set a charge equal to the cost of the materials or make a charge "in kind" by requiring parents to provide raw materials. Where a cash charge is made, the income generated must be used by the school for the purchase of the raw materials in question, or to offset the expense previously incurred in their purchase.
3. For board and lodging on a residential trip the school is required to make such charges as are needed to recover, but not exceed, the actual cost of the board and lodging in question. Where parents are on Income Support they may approach the school for assistance. In such cases the school can pay up to half of the board and lodging costs plus all voluntary contributions. If families receive additional assistance this amount will be taken into consideration.
4. For education provided outside school hours as an optional extra there should be prior agreement of parents. The charge will be determined on the basis of the cost of the individual and may include an element for travel, materials, books, instruments and other equipment, non-teaching staff costs and teaching staff costs.

B) Remissions Policy

- 1) In setting a Remissions Policy, governors need to have available the financial resources to reimburse the Authority for the full value of all remitted charges.

C) Voluntary Contributions

The School is entitled to seek voluntary contributions from parents for activities, which take place in school time, but which are not a required part of the curriculum and are offered as extras. Where enrichment activities are deemed to be a part of

the child's National Curriculum learning parents may be asked to make a voluntary contribution to help cover costs incurred.

D) Damage to or Loss of School Property

The school expects parents to reimburse the school for any damage to or loss of school property.

E) Governors should note that if they provide an activity from moneys given to them as their budget share under Local Management of Schools and where they then decide either in their charging policy or in their remissions policy to be less generous to parents than in the LA policy (that is to charge more than the LA policy requires or to remit less than the LA policy requires) then the LA may take account of this extra income to governors in its resource allocation formula. This is necessary in order to ensure that such activities are not double funded.