



BRIZE NORTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
Policy for charging for and remissions for
school activities



Review Date Planned	Review Date	Date adopted by Governing Body
20th November 2014	20th November 2014	20th November 2014
1st November 2017	November 2017	15th November 2017
November 2020		

Introduction

Brize Norton Primary School believes that all our pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities and visits (curricular and extra curricular) independent of their parents' financial means. This charging and remissions policy describes how we will do our best to ensure a good range of visits and activities is offered and, at the same time, try to minimise the financial barriers which may prevent some pupils taking full advantage of the opportunities.

The 1996 Education Act requires all schools to have a policy on charging and remissions for school activities, which will be kept under regular review. The review date for this policy is recorded at the end of the document.

1. The policy identifies activities for which:

- **charges will not be made.**
- **charges will be made**
- **charges may be waived**

2. Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary. All requests for voluntary contributions will emphasise their voluntary nature and the fact that pupils of parents who do not make such contributions will not be treated any differently from those who have.

The Law says:

If the activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions the parents will be notified of this from the outset.

No child will be excluded from an activity because parents are unable to pay.

If insufficient contributions are raised, the trip or activity may have to be cancelled.

If a parent is unwilling or unable to pay their child will be given an equal chance to go on the visit.

Sometimes the school or School Association pay additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive.

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport;
- outdoor adventure activities
- visits to the theatre;
- musical events;
- some out of hours clubs.

Residential Visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we ask for voluntary contributions for the education or travel expenses. However, we do make a charge to cover the cost of board and lodging. This may be waived in the case of children who receive the Pupil Premium because their parents receive income support or associated benefits.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of National Curriculum. We do not charge for this. There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. The teachers make a charge for these lessons. This may be waived in the case of children who receive the Pupil Premium because their parents receive income support or associated benefits. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum for Key Stage 2 but the lessons incur additional costs for pool hire, instructor fees and transport. We therefore request a voluntary contribution for this activity. We inform parents when the lessons are to take place.

Football and other sport coaches

The school offers football after school each week and other sports coaching throughout the year. Qualified coaches, who are not members of school staff, are used for such activities. The coaches charge for these sessions.

Remissions

In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged pupils, the governing body has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can legally be made will be made at a reduced charge to parents in particular circumstances. This remissions policy sets out the circumstances in which charges will be waived.

Families qualifying for remission or help with charges.

Criteria for qualification for remission are given below.

Category A

Parents in receipt of

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided that Working Tax Credit is not also received and the family's income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) does not exceed £16,190
- Guaranteed State Pension

9. Additional considerations

The governing body recognises its responsibility to ensure that the offer of activities and educational visits does not place an unnecessary burden on family finances. To this end we will try to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Where possible we shall publish a list of visits (and their approximate cost) at the beginning of each term so that parents can plan ahead
- We have established a system for parents to pay in instalments for residential trips
- When an opportunity for a trip arises at short notice it will be possible to arrange to pay after the date of the trip
- We acknowledge that offering opportunities on a 'first pay, first served' basis discriminates against pupils from families on lower incomes and we will avoid that method of selection.