



Charges and Remissions Policy

Ethos Statement

In our school we work hard to encourage positive attitudes, independent learning, a sense of pride and high achievement. Wells Hall pupils should be motivated learners who ask questions and listen to and respect others. They take pride in their work, demonstrate positive learning habits and strive to do their best. Pupils have the confidence to try new things and the resilience to persevere even if things get challenging. They see a mistake as a learning opportunity not a failure and are keen to build on their mistakes to develop greater understanding. Children are respectful to the people they meet, their own local environment and the wider world. The school strives to create polite, well-mannered caring members of our school community who understand and respect everybody's differences and needs.

SCHOOL CHARGES AND REMISSIONS

A. General

1. The Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution which a wide range of activities, including educational visits and residential experiences, can make towards pupils' personal and social education. Such activities should be seen as an integral part of a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils.
2. The Governing Body aims to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils of the school and as additional optional activities.

B. Charges

The Governing Body reserves the right to make a charge in the following circumstances for activities organised by the school.

- (i) those organised for pupils outside of school hours or otherwise deemed to be an optional extra as defined in the Education Reform Act;
 - (ii) various clubs offered after school which are run by outside organisations/persons (these could change on a termly basis)
 - (iii) Group music tuition; i.e. violin, guitar
 - (iv) those involving a board and lodging element and deemed to be within school hours;
 - (v) Year 4 residential trip
 - (vi) Year 6 residential trip
 - (vii) individual instrumental tuition which takes place within school hours, unless it forms part of the syllabus of a prescribed public examination or the National Curriculum; this is not relevant to Wells Hall at this time
 - (viii) those involving the purchase or hire of instruments, materials, equipment and clothing (or the provision of them by pupils or parents) in cases where it has discretion so to do.
 - (ix) Design and Technology – a voluntary contribution of £5 per pupil for each academic year
 - (x) Swimming – a voluntary contribution of £5 per pupil (£8 for parents who have more than 1 pupil at the school) for each academic year.
3. Where a pupil has not been prepared for a public examination by a school, the Authority may make a charge for the cost of entering the pupil for the examination if previously agreed by the parents.
 4. If a pupil fails without good reason to complete the examination requirements for any public examination for which the Authority has paid (or is liable to pay) an entry fee then the Authority may recover the fee from the parent.
 5. Where the Governing Body of a school makes a charge in respect of an activity provided by the school for which provision is included in the school's budget share, the Authority will take account in its resource allocation formula of the relevant proportion of the income accruing to the school for that activity.
 6. Nothing in this policy statement precludes the Governing Body from inviting parents to make voluntary contributions towards the cost of providing education for pupils.

C. Remissions

7. Where the parents of a pupil are in receipt of:-

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (TC 602), as long as the parents do not receive a working Tax Credit and an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Other exceptional circumstances not falling within the criteria listed above

The Governing Body will remit partially or in full the cost of board and lodgings for any residential activity that it organises for the pupil if the activity is deemed to take place within school hours or where it forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination or the National Curriculum.

In other circumstances, there may be cases of family hardship which make it difficult for pupils to take part in particular activities for which a charge is made. When arranging a chargeable activity the Governing Body will invite parents to apply in confidence for the remission of charges in part or in full. Authorisation of remission will be made by the Headteacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors.

The Local Education Authority adopts these criteria for remission in respect of other provision.

8. Where the Governing Body of a school adopts a remissions policy which is less generous than that of the LEA in respect of an activity provided by the school for which provision is included in the school's budget share, the LEA will take account in its resource allocation formula of the relevant proportion of the income accruing to the school for that activity.