



# **DISCOVERY PRIMARY ACADEMY**

## **CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY**

The policy is based upon the principle that pupils are not deprived of participating in any educational activity solely upon financial grounds. However it must be explained that the budget allows us limited funds to subsidise other than essential activities and resources.

A wide range of activities, educational visits and other opportunities are planned to enhance the quality breadth and depth of the pupils learning experiences. The continued support and voluntary contributions from parents is vital if we are to continue to offer these visits and opportunities to our pupils.

### **Equipment and materials.**

The academy does not charge for any basic equipment or materials used by the children.

### **Exceptions:-**

Parents may be requested to make a voluntary contribution in cash or in kind e.g. ingredients before children make certain Art, Craft, Technology and Cookery items, if parents elect to own the completed article. Children will never be deprived of an activity but the finished item will remain the property of the academy.

### **A charge equivalent to the cost of replacement or repair will be levied to parents of children who vandalise or purposefully break or damage school property or equipment**

### **Music Tuition**

If a pupil receives individual tuition a small charge may be levied. Parents of pupils receiving tuition will be expected to pay a notional termly contribution towards their music and provision of other specialised resources and parents of pupils using individual Agency and/or school owned instruments will be expected to pay a notional hire charge, also on a termly basis

Fees for external examinations will be requested from parents as participation is voluntary and not essential.

Extra curricular music activities are voluntary. Pupils will be required to provide their own instruments and music.

Health and safety guidelines and to ensure availability of instruments for practice it is recommended children should not swop or share instruments. If children do share an instrument a separate "mouth piece" is essential.

### **Day (or part day) visits and/or visitors**

Parents may be invited to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of these activities. The individual child will not be deprived of participating in the activity on the grounds of non-contribution by his/her parents BUT the activity may not proceed and/or be cancelled if

collectively the voluntary contributions from parents do not make the activity financially viable. The requested voluntary contribution will be based upon the cost of the activity shared equally between those to whom it is offered.

It must be made clear that pupils do receive a differentiated curriculum and groups will have differing opportunities.

### **Residential visits**

(Mainly in academy time)

Parents except those on Family Income Support will be required to pay the board and lodging elements of the costs involved. All other costs are to be requested as voluntary contributions as explained for day visits above. If collectively the contributions from parents do not make the proposed visit financially viable cancellation is inevitable.

### **Remissions Policy.**

The 1988 Education Act requires that the board and lodging costs are paid for families in receipt of Family Income Support if :-

- 1) The visit takes place during school hours
- 2) The visit involves the delivery of the national curriculum
- 3) The visit is required as part of a prescribed examination syllabus.

For residential visits deemed to be optional extras, **which all of ours are**, such remissions are at the discretion of the academy.

As an academy we always try to support "deserving cases of genuine hardship" and parents are invited to make application, in confidence, to the headteacher.