

Charging and Remissions

Policy



Beaufort School

Governing Body Approval Date	October 2023
Approved by	Andrew Collyer
Review	Annually
Review Date	October 2024

Rationale

The Governing Body of Beaufort School recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including trips, clubs, and residential experiences can make towards pupils' education.

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.

Context

The law states that education provided during school hours must be free. This definition includes materials, equipment and transport provided in school hours by the Local Authority or the School. No pupil may be left out of an activity because their parents / carers cannot or will not make a contribution.

Aims

- To make school activities accessible to pupils regardless of family income
- To provide a process which allows activities to take place at a minimum cost to parents, pupils and the school
- Acknowledge the cost of such activities to the schools' budget.

Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents / carers to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary. The school and the Governing body acknowledge that if a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid a contribution as we do not treat these children differently from any others.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unable to make a voluntary contribution, the school will allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. There are occasions when the school pays additional costs in order to support a visit, using Pupil Premium funding to enable disadvantaged children to experience a broad curriculum. 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. These activities are known as 'optional extras.' This list is not exhaustive.

- Visits to museums
- Sporting activities which require transport expenses

- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to the theatre
- Musical events
- 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 do charge parents for the accommodation, activities, and travel to the site. The cost of this may be subsidised by the school.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. Children and parents cannot refuse to take part in this activity. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

General

The Governing Body may from time to time, amend the categories of activity for which a charge may be made. Nothing in this policy statement precludes the Governing Body from inviting parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of additional activities, which take place in school time. Parents may be advised that the continuance of an activity may depend upon voluntary contributions, but once it has been decided to run such an activity no qualifying child will be excluded on the grounds of voluntary contributions

Remissions

Parents / carers may apply to the school for remission of charges in whole or part towards the charges for activities or for financial support. This is available on a case-by-case basis. The school may from time to time decide to remit all or part of the cost of activities, involving particular pupils. This will be at the school's discretion.

When arranging a chargeable activity, the school will invite parents / carers to apply in confidence for the remission of charges in part or in full. Parents / carers should talk to the office staff in the first instance.

In the main, subsidies may be made for pupils on the Free School Meals Register, or a Looked After Child. Remission for pupils not on the Free School Meals Register or a Looked After Child cannot be guaranteed but parents are still invited to discuss their individual circumstances with the Headteacher in the first instance.