

The Oval School



Charging and Remissions Policy

Date Ratified: Jan 2017

Signed by: C. C. Hayes

On behalf of School Governors

Signed by:

Headteacher: R. K. Chahal

Review Date: Jan 2019.

The drb Multi Academy Trust

Charging and Remissions Policy 2016-17

The Oval School

Rationale

The Governing Body of The Oval School recognise the valuable contribution that a wide range of additional activities, including trips, clubs and residential experiences can make towards pupils' education and achievement. 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 requires that education provided during school hours must be free. This definition includes materials, equipment and transport provided in school hours by the School or the drb Ignite Multi Academy Trust. No pupil should be excluded from an activity because parents/carers cannot or will not make a contribution.

Aims

Our aims are practical and inclusive:

- 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/carers, pupils and the school
- To ensure value for money and record the cost of such activities through the school's budget processes

Charges

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

1. Residential Activities Taking Place Largely During School Hours

The full cost to each pupil of board and lodging. Parents/carers have the right to claim free activities if they are in receipt of the following state benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Support under section VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1996
- Working tax credit and an annual income that does not exceed the published Inland Revenue threshold

2. Activities outside School Hours

The full cost to each pupil of all approved activities deemed to be optional extras that are not a necessary part of the drb Ignite MAT Curriculum and/or National Curriculum.

3. Individual Instrumental Tuition

The full cost to the pupil for providing any instrumental tuition if the cost is not an essential part of the drb Ignite MAT Curriculum and /or National Curriculum.

4. Remissions

There is no obligation for any parent/carer to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of school activities and to the School Fund. Pupils will not be treated differently whether or not their parents have made a contribution.

The Governing Body may wish to remit in full or in part the cost of other activities for particular groups of parents/carers, for example, in the case of family hardship. When arranging a chargeable activity such parents/carers will be invited in confidence for the remission of charges in full or in part. The Head teacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors will make authorisation for such remission.

5. Voluntary Contributions

Voluntary contributions may be requested from parents/carers to cover the cost of the following activities:

- School trips or visitors to School
- Music tuition
- Travel costs

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/carers to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of additional activities, which take place in school time. Parents/carers 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.

Agreed by:
Review date:

Date:

January 2017

