

Policy No	Blisworth Community Primary School
Version No	(Charging and Remission Policy)



Charging and Remission Policy

This section should be completed following ratification of the Policy:

Committee Ratifying Policy:	Date of meeting:
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	Name	Signature	Date
Chair of Committee's Approval			
Chair of Governor's Approval			
Recommended Review Date:			

Ownership

Blisworth Community Primary School is a Local Authority School. It will be displayed on the policy list whether the policy is Local Authority adopted or school produced. The policy is issued by the Clerk, Cheryl Tomkinson, to whom any change requests or queries should be directed by emailing cheryl@plumtreecottage.co.uk.

Version Control

This document is issued and maintained in accordance with Blisworth Community Primary School's procedures. Any change to the document will increase its version number. It is the responsibility of the reader to check with the Clerk that this is a currently valid copy.

Version	Date	Description of Change	Changed By

Introduction

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All education during school hours is free. Activities undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual or group music tuition, do not have to be paid for.

Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips, visits or visitors, which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If enough voluntary contributions are not received, the event may have to be cancelled. When a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. These children are treated no differently to the rest of the group.

Charges for craft and cooking materials may be made where parents have indicated they wish to own the finished article. Voluntary contributions may be sought to cover miscellaneous expenses e.g. picture frames used to present art work.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, the event may still go ahead and the child will be able to take part. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know in principle 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 'curriculum enrichment opportunities'. The list is not exhaustive.

- visits to museums;
- artists / musicians storyteller in residence;
- visits to the theatre / cinema;
- theatre visits to the school;
- musical events.

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, a voluntary contribution is requested to cover the cost of food, accommodation, activities and transport. Parents on a low income can request a reduction in price and how to get further information is set out in the initial letter home. However, there is an expectation that where sufficient time is given to save for a residential ie several months, that this will be used to pay by instalments, in full.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. There is no charge for this. There is however a charge for individual or group music tuition

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if this is not part of the National Curriculum. Peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons and a charge is made to cover the cost to the school. Parents are given information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

Peripatetic teaching time has to be booked in advance and paid for by the school. One full term's notice is needed of any intention to terminate the lessons, and that term will need to be paid for in full. This is set out in the letter at the beginning of the year that parents sign up to.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Year 5. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. School may ask for voluntary contributions from parents. No child is excluded if parents are unable/unwilling to pay and the swimming lessons will take place regardless of how many voluntary contributions are paid. Parents are informed when these lessons are to take place, and are asked for written permission for their child to take part.

After School Clubs

The school offers a wide range of additional activities after school. Where these are taught by members of school staff e.g. netball, choir and recorders, is a small charge may be made to cover the cost of the club including costs to cover materials eg Cookery Club and staffing costs. A charge is made where outside groups lead the clubs and they charge the school.

School minibus

Group transport is expensive and sometimes the cost of the coach means that a visit cannot take place. Where possible, a community minibus is used, with parents also driving their own cars. A small charge may then made to cover the cost of petrol.

Friends of Blisworth School (FOBS)

FOBs raise funds through the provision of community events and school activities for children. FOBS charge children to attend evening discos and other such entertainment. Children usually attend in sufficient numbers to ensure a profit is made for the association. Monies raised are dedicated to providing additional resources for the school.

Charges for Breakages, damage or loss

Subject to the school recognising that accidental damage can occur, the school will seek to recover the costs incurred as a result of any item of school property being damaged, broken or lost as a result of misbehaviour, thoughtless behaviour or carelessness. Deliberate damage to books, equipment or fabric of the building is unacceptable. Parents will be charged for wilful damage by their children to school property and will be asked to get the children to pay at least a token amount from their own pocket money. In event of books being lost

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or damaged, parents/carers will be asked to replace or refund the total cost of each book.

Remissions

In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged pupils (not necessarily Pupil Premium children), the Governing Board has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can legally be made, will be offered at no charge or a reduced charge to pupils in particular circumstances.

Pupil Premium Funding

Parents of pupils awarded this funding are allocated £100 per term per pupil to spend on activities of their own choice that are provided by the school. A card is provided to record the spending of the money. The purpose is to give some control to parents so that the funding can be targeted at where parents feel they need financial help eg with uniform or clubs or visits.

Review:

The Governing Board reviews this policy every two years. Governors may however, review the policy earlier than this, if the government introduces new regulations, or if the Governing Board receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved.

Signed :

Date: Revised Autumn 2018