

Morville C.E. Primary School

Policy: Charging

Last Review: Spring 2015

Responsible: Governors' Resources Committee

Review Date: Spring 2017

Statement of Charging and Remissions Policy

1. The Education Reform Act, 1988 requires the governing Body to:- "...determine and keep under review a policy with respect to the provision of, and the classes or descriptions of cases in which they propose to make charges for, any optional extra or board and lodging in respect of which charges are permitted by Section 109 of this Act,"
2. The Governing Body have noted that the Education Reform Act allows charges to be made in the following areas:-

Optional Extras	Activities not related to the National Curriculum or to prescribed public examinations taking place or to fulfil duties relating to religious education out of school time.
Individual Instrument Tuition	Individual instrument tuition not related to the National Curriculum or to prescribed public examinations.
Materials used in craft subjects	Subject to the parents having agreed in advance that they wish to own the finished product.
Board and lodging charges	At any time (in school time or otherwise) subject to full remission to those parents in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Job Seeker's Allowance, Child Tax Credit, where the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit, works less than 16 hours per week and whose annual income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) does not exceed £16,190 or support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 for residential visits taking place or deemed to take place in 'school time'.
Examination Entry Fees	Public examinations not prescribed in regulations. Prescribed public examinations where the pupil has not been prepared by the school. Resits of prescribed public examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school.

3. The Education Reform Act does not debar voluntary contributions being made by parents.

The Governing Body would wish to try to ensure that the level of visits and activities established at the school continue but emphasise to parents that this can only happen with their full support and that activities will either be substantially reduced or cease altogether if parents are not prepared to contribute voluntarily.

The Governing Body notes that all parents may make voluntary contributions in any situation, e.g. contributing towards the cost of board and lodgings on residential visits, if they so wish.

The Governing Body also note that there are no restrictions on the level of voluntary contribution that can be made nor are there any restrictions as to the use to which such contributions may be put.

4. The Governing Body notes the Education Reform Act prescribes;
 - that no charges may be levied for school activities taking place or deemed to take place in school time.
 - that voluntary contributions must be genuinely voluntary.

- that there is no obligation on parents to contribute and
- that pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution.

The Governing Body recognises that participation in all educational visits is voluntary and, notwithstanding the charging requirements, parents have the right, for whatever other reason, to choose that their children not participate.

5. The Charging and Remissions Policy for Morville School will, for the time being, be as follows:-
 - (i) The Governors reserve the right to make charges where the law allows and as set out in 2 above.
 - (ii) From time to time it will be possible for the cost of educational visits and activities to be subsidised either wholly or in part from private school funds. Parents will be so informed when these occasions arise.
 - (iii) Individual instrumental tuition able to be accommodated at the wishes of parents will be on the understanding that parents meet the full costs involved.
 - (iv) Should the Governing Body choose to hold 'in school time' residential visits, remission of board and lodging costs will be provided **by the school** to those who are entitled and who claim.
 - (v) The Governing Body have instructed the headteacher to include in the school's disciplinary code that parents will be asked to meet or contribute towards the costs of damage to or loss of school property arising out of individual pupils' behaviour.
6. The Governors will make reasonable charges for the community use of the school building.