

*Queen's Park C.E./U.R.C.
Primary School*



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Primary School**

Charging and Remissions

September 2021

To be reviewed: September 2022

QUEEN'S PARK CE/URC PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

Queen's Park C.E/URC Primary School endorses the principles of the 1988 Education Act in maintaining the right to free education for all children. The act allows us to request voluntary contributions to broaden children's educational experience.

OVERVIEW

The education we provide wholly or mainly during school hours will be free but on some occasions a 'voluntary' contribution towards the cost of an activity may be requested by the school. Parents are free to decide whether or not to contribute. This policy sets out the principles upon which the school will operate charges and remissions

OBJECTIVES

1. To make clear what will be provided without charge and what will be offered with a charge being made.
2. To clarify what is meant by any request for voluntary contributions.

STRATEGIES

1. No charge will be made for admitting pupils to school.
2. The school may request voluntary contributions towards the cost of some activities planned during school hours.
3. Where parents are asked to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of an activity which takes place during school hours, or to school equipment or school funds, the contribution will be genuinely voluntary. Pupils of parents who are unable or unwilling to contribute will not be discriminated against.
4. When there are insufficient voluntary contributions to make an activity possible, and when there is no way to make up the shortfall, it will be cancelled.
5. On residential trips that take place wholly, or mainly, during school hours, the school will charge for the cost of board and lodging at the actual cost of the provision.
6. Children whose parents are in receipt of some specific support payments will, have a free school lunch entitlement.
7. Where music tuition or singing tuition is not an essential part of the national curriculum, charges may be made.

8. Any school organised activity which takes place mainly (more than 50%) outside of school time will be charged for in such a way as to meet the entire costs of the activity.
9. The school will cover accidental breakages of school property. Deliberate or wilful acts which result in breakage or damage to school property will be charged for at a rate appropriate to replacement costs.
10. The Headteacher, Resource Committee or Governing Body may levy charges for miscellaneous services up to the cost of providing such services, e.g. for providing a copy of an OFSTED report.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

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, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school may pay additional costs in order to support the visit through the school fund. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded, and 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 or by a theatre company;*
- *musical events.*

OUTCOMES

The funding of activities will be a clear and open process understood by all. We intend that our charging and remissions policy will be in line with that of the LA and that it will meet the requirements of the law.

The school charging policy will be subject to change if there are new LEA or DfES directives