

Millfields Primary School
CHARGING AND REMISSIONS FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES POLICY

Date of Ratification:	February 2014	Signed: (HEAD TEACHER) (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)
Review date:	February 2017	Signed: (HEAD TEACHER) (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)
Review date:	February 2020	Signed: (HEAD TEACHER) (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)
Review date:		Signed: (HEAD TEACHER) (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)
Review date:		Signed: (HEAD TEACHER) (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)
Review date:		Signed: (HEAD TEACHER) (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)

Safeguarding and PREVENT Statement

At Millfields Primary School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Millfields Primary School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

As of July 2015, the [Counter-Terrorism and Security Act \(HMG, 2015\)](#) placed a new duty on schools and other education providers. Under section 26 of the Act, schools are required, in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

It requires schools to:

- teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life and must promote community cohesion
- be safe spaces in which children / young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas
- be mindful of their existing duties to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues

Millfields Primary School works in accordance with the PREVENT Duty and treats this issue as seriously as any other child protection matter.

Millfields Primary School believes that all our pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities and visits (curricular and extracurricular) independent of their parents' financial means. This charging and remissions policy describes how we will do our best to ensure a good range of visits and activities is offered and, at the same time, try to minimise the financial barriers which may prevent some pupils taking full advantage of the opportunities.

The 1996 Education Act requires all schools to have a policy on charging and remissions for school activities, which will be kept under regular review. The review date for this policy is recorded at the end of the document.

The policy identifies activities for which:

- **Charges will not be made.**
- **Charges will be made**
- **Charges may be waived**

Voluntary contributions

Separately from the matter of charging, schools may always seek voluntary contributions in order to offer a wide variety of experiences to pupils. All requests for voluntary contributions will emphasise their voluntary nature and the fact that pupils of parents who do not make such contributions will be treated no differently from those who have.

The Law says:

If the activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions the parents will be notified of this from the outset. No child will be excluded from an activity because parents are unable to pay. If insufficient contributions are raised, the trip or activity may have to be cancelled. If a parent is unwilling or unable to pay their child will be given an equal chance to go on the visit.

Millfields Primary School Charging Policy October 2011

No charges will be made for

1. Education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment);
2. Education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of the school's basic curriculum for religious education;
3. Tuition for pupils learning to play musical instruments (or singing) if the tuition is required as part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school;
4. Entry for a prescribed public examination, if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school.

5. Education provided on any trip that takes place during school hours;
6. Education provided on any trip that takes place outside school hours
 - a. if it is part of the National Curriculum, or
 - b. part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or
 - c. part of the school's basic curriculum for religious education;
7. Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential trip;
9. Transport provided in connection with an educational trip.

Activities for which charges may be made

a) Activities outside school hours

Non-residential activities (other than those listed in 1 above) which take place outside school hours but only if the majority of the time spent on that activity takes place outside school hours (time spent on travel counts in this calculation if the travel itself occurs during school hours).

b) Residential activities

Board and lodging costs (but only those costs) of residential trips deemed to take place during school time, However pupils whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits (see remissions policy below) may not be charged for board and lodging costs. Residential trips deemed to take place outside school time (other than for those activities listed in 1 above).

c) Music tuition

Music tuition for individuals or groups of up to 4 pupils

d) Public Examinations

- a. The Headteacher has the delegated responsibility to decide whether pupils are entered into particular examinations.
- b. The Headteacher has the authority to charge for examination entries in certain circumstances
- c. The Headteacher is authorised to request payment for wasted examination fees

e) Loss and Damage to School Property

Parents of a pupil who damages or loses any item of school property or equipment, including, for example, windows or computer software, are liable for the costs of repair or replacement. This formal statement has to be made available to all parents. In reality, any problems are usually resolved very amicably

Residential Visits

When any trip is arranged parents will be notified of the policy for allocating places

Is a residential trip in or out of school time?

If the number of school sessions on a residential trip is equal to or greater than 50% of the number of half days spent on the trip it is deemed to have taken place during school hours (even if some activities take place late in the evening). Whatever the starting and finishing times of the school day, regulations require that the school day is divided into 2 sessions. A “half day” means any period of 12 hours ending with noon or midnight on any day.

It is the policy of Millfields Primary School that charges will (or may) be made as indicated below. Parental agreement will be obtained before a charge is made.

Activities which can be charged for (with the exception of board and lodging for residential trips) are regarded as ‘optional extras’. Charges will not exceed the actual cost (per pupil) of provision

Charges will/may be made for any materials, books, instruments, or equipment, ***where a parent wishes their child to own them***; Eg. A clay model – a charge to cover the cost of the clay.

Charges will/may be made for music tuition The cost, or a proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument or singing, where the tuition is an optional extra for an individual pupil or groups of up to four pupils

Charges will be made for the board and lodging component of residential trip.

Remissions

In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged pupils, the governing body has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can legally be made will be offered at no charge or a reduced charge to parents in particular circumstances. This remissions policy sets out the circumstances in which charges will be waived.

Parents in receipt of

- Universal Credit, which has replaced the following
 - Child Tax Credit.
 - Housing Benefit.
 - Income Support.
 - income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
 - income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Working Tax Credit.
- The Guaranteed element of the State Pension Credit

Additional considerations

The governing body recognises its responsibility to ensure that the offer of activities and educational visits does not place an unnecessary burden on family finances. To this end we will try to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Where possible we shall provide a minimum of six weeks' notice for trips and a minimum of eight months notice for residential trips (and their approximate cost) so that parents can plan ahead,
- We have established a system for parents to pay in instalments

- When an opportunity for a trip arises at short notice it will be possible to arrange to pay by instalments beyond the date of the trip

- We acknowledge that offering opportunities on a 'first pay, first served' basis discriminates against pupils from families on lower incomes and we will avoid that method of selection.

Policy Agreed by the Governing Body on

Signed Chair of Governing Body