

Gaskell Community Primary School

Charging & Remissions



Approval Date: October 2020

Review Date: October 2023

The Governing Body of Gaskell Community Primary School recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, trips visits and residential experiences can make towards pupils' academic, personal and social education. The Governing Body aims to promote and encourage the school to provide such activities both as a part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils of the school and as additional optional activities.

Charges - The 1988 Education reform Act required all schools to make a statement about charges for certain activities.

There are two categories where the school may ask parents for financial contribution to meet the cost of an activity.

1. Where the activity is over and above the routine expectation of what would normally be provided by the school.

There is usually an obvious cost, to the school, associated with activities of this type. Even though the activity is likely to take place in school time it would be unreasonable to expect school to meet the full cost. Typical examples of activities falling into this category are day trips, admission to museums and theatres, transport costs, professional performances and demonstrations in school and when children are allowed to keep technical models and other resources which otherwise could have been reused in school. Payment for activities in this category will be by 'voluntary contribution'. Parents will be informed how much money the school needs to raise for the activity to go ahead. Individual children would not be prevented from taking part in an activity if they are unable to pay the full amount but the school reserves the right to cancel an activity if insufficient funds can be raised. Where a family is unable to pay the full amount they would be expected to pay a small contribution towards the cost of the activity.

2. Private tuition, residential visits, out-of-school-hour activities.

All of these activities are optional; even though they may be highly beneficial they are non-essential. Members of staff supervising these activities are often doing so on a voluntary basis. The school needs to be sure, before embarking on the activity, that any costs incurred will be offset by parental contributions. In the case of private tuition (musical instrument or other) the cost of tuition is normally paid by the parents direct to the external teacher. The school carries no pecuniary responsibility in this area.

Remissions

In circumstances of family hardship the Governors may wish the school to remit the cost to certain parents. Parents in these circumstances should apply in confidence to the Headteacher.

