

Wootey Infant School Charging and Remission Policy



Responsibility: Resources Committee

Reviewed by: FGB

This Review: July 2021

Next Review Due: July 2024

Cycle: 3 Years

Statutory: Y

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on charging for school activities and the Education Act 1996, sections 449-462 of which set out the law on charging for school activities in maintained schools in England. This 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 Governing Body of Wootey Infant School believes in the principle of free school education. It will therefore ensure that no charges are made for any activity other than those defined by the Act as "Optional extras".

All pupils are eligible to take part in any activity organised by the school which is undertaken wholly during school time irrespective of the circumstances of the parents.

The Governing Body undertakes to make no charge for any activity which is not described as optional for the purposes of the Act.

Definitions

- Charge: a fee payable for specifically defined activities
- Remission: the cancellation of a charge which would normally be payable

Remission of Charges

Any remitted charge will be met by the school budget as appropriate to the activity.

Voluntary Contributions

Parents may be asked to contribute to any curricular activity with the following safeguards:

- That there is no obligation to contribute
- Provision is made for remitted charges to be met by the school budget.
- Voluntary contributions will be set at a level to meet the cost of the activity and not at a level to generate excess funds.
- Information will be produced detailing costings and totalled receipts.
- It is recognised that should contributions be at great variance with costings the activity might have to be cancelled.
- 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 or PTA pays additional costs in order to support the visit.
- Requests may be made to local funding opportunities through Alton Buckle to support pupil participation in extra-curricular activities.
- Pupil Premium money may be used at the Headteacher's discretion to support fair access to all opportunities for all pupils. All children for whom disposable income is limited will be considered regardless of whether or not they are in receipt of Pupil Premium funding
- Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

Breakages and Items Lost at Home

Parents will be asked to pay for lost or damaged school property where this is a result of misbehaviour. Parents will also be asked to pay a fixed amount for books lost at home.