Charging and Remission Policy

Safeguarding Statement

West Heath Primary will continuously strive to ensure that everyone in our school is treated with respect and dignity. Each person in our school will be given fair and equal opportunity to develop their full potential with positive regard to gender, ethnicity, cultural and religious background, sexuality or disability. West Heath Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Owner	Headteacher
Date of review	September 2021
Date of next review	September 2022

Charging and Remission Policy

CHARGING FOR SCHOOL OR RELATED ACTIVITIES

Procedure

The school has taken into account the guidelines for 'Charging for School Activities' as set out in the relevant legislation and Birmingham City Council's Guidelines on Charging and Remission Policy for Schools, and in the context of our school community recommended that the principles of the policy should:

1. Make school activities accessible to all children.
2. Provide a process which allows activities to take place at a minimum cost to parents, pupils and school.
3. After school activity clubs will be charges at £1 per session. For children chosen to represent the school in sport teams, there will be no charge.
4. To be sensitive to the wide variations in family income whilst not adding additional un-expected burdens on our school budget.

Where possible, the planning process in the Spring/Summer term will include essential curriculum visits for each year group, their approximate timings and expense to each pupil. Although transport and education in school time cannot be charged to pupils, the activities deemed necessary would not take place as their associated costs would cause additional unexpected burdens on the school budget.

It is our intention to inform parents of the likely activities/visits for their child in each academic year, giving approximate costs per pupil.

Parents/Carers will be informed, in writing each term of the visit, outlining costs, voluntary contributions and time given to pay.

Teachers, when planning visits, will be asked to take into account-

- The number of visits planned for the school year
- Whether the visit is essential to the taught curriculum
- The cost of all visits for the year group
- The knowledge of the family's ability to pay or make a contribution
- The length of time given to pay, i.e. over a year, a term etc

Education outside school hours

Parents can only be charged for activities that happen outside school hours when these activities are not a necessary part of the national curriculum or religious education. There will be no charge for normal school clubs which take place at lunchtimes or at the end of the school day.

For school camps, theatre visits after school etc, a cost charge will be requested.

Residential activities

For a school residential visit in term time, it is deemed to take place in school hours, cost charges will be requested for board and lodging and a voluntary contribution to cover transport will be asked for.

The Headteacher will tell all parents/carers of their right to claim subsidised activities for all those entitled to relevant benefits.

Remission policy

The school wishes to treat all children fairly, but realises that approximately 51% of children's families are in receipt of related benefits.

Thorough planning, adequate time to pay and our knowledge of our families, especially the more needy ones, with requests for voluntary contributions visits should be possible. No pressure will be put on parents to pay and each planned visit will explain that the parents are welcome to come and discuss methods of payment or hardship.

No child who is eligible to take part will be excluded from doing so because the family cannot afford to pay. Any necessary selection will be done on the basis of education and consideration only.

The cost for any visits that parents/carers are asked to contribute to, are real costs only. There will be no subsidy costs charged to any parents/carers.

Breakages and fines

Parents/carers will be asked to pay a replacement cost for any school equipment which has been deliberately damaged or destroyed by their children.