

CHILDWALL ABBEY SCHOOL

A calm, safe and welcoming place in which to work and learn.

A place where everyone supports each other to achieve.

A place we enjoy coming to each day.



CHARGING & REMISSIONS POLICY

The Governors and staff of Childwall Abbey School believe that all our pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities and visits - curricular and extra-curricular, independent of their parents/carers financial means. This Charging and Remissions Policy outlines how we strive to ensure a good range of visits and activities are offered whilst trying to minimize the financial barriers which may prevent 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 June 2014. The policy identifies activities for which:

- No charges will be made
- Voluntary contributions may be requested
- Charges may be made
- Charges may be waived or subsidized

No charges will be made for:

- Education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)
- Education provided outside school hours as part of the National Curriculum/Scheme of Work
- Tuition for pupils learning to play musical instruments (or singing) if the tuition is required as part of the National Curriculum/Scheme of Work.
- Entry for a prescribed public examination, if the pupil has prepared for this at school
- Examination re-sits if the pupil has been prepared for this at school
- Education provided on any trip that takes place during school hours
- Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on an activity or trip
- Transport provided in connection with an educational visit

Lifeskills Visit

Lifeskills visits are designed to enrich and widen students' experiences and provide them with skills for life. Charges for such visits will be met by the school.

Voluntary Contributions

The school may seek voluntary contributions in order to offer a wide variety of experience to pupils. All requests for voluntary contributions will emphasise their voluntary nature and the fact that pupils of parents/carers who do not make such contributions will be treated no differently from those who have.

Voluntary contributions may be requested from parents/carers for non-educational outings including end of term celebrations.

If an activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions, this will be made clear to parents/carers from the outset. If insufficient contributions are received, the activity or trip may have to be cancelled and contributions received returned.

No pupil will be excluded from an activity because his/her parents/carers are unable or unwilling to make a voluntary contribution and will still be given an equal chance to participate.

Charges may be made for:

- Any materials, books, instruments or equipment where the parents/carers wish their son/daughter to own them
- Willful damage to school property
- Bank charges incurred in respect of returned cheques

Participation in any optional extra activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to meet the charges. Parental agreement therefore will be a necessary pre-requisite for the provision of an optional extra where charges will be made.

Remissions

In order to remove financial barriers from 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/carers in particular circumstances at the discretion of the Headteacher.

Residential Visits

A subsidized charge will be made for board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit. Any charges made in respect of individual pupils will not exceed the actual costs of the residential, divided by the number of pupils participating. It will not therefore include an element of subsidy for any other pupils wishing to participate in the activity whose parents/carers are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge. All staff costs associated with the residential will be met by school.

Additional Considerations

The Governing Body recognizes 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 aim to adhere to the following guidelines:-

- Where possible we shall publish a list of visits at the beginning of the school year to help parents/carers plan ahead
- We will allow parents/carers to pay in installments where appropriate
- If an opportunity for a trip arises at short notice it will be possible to arrange to pay by installments beyond the date of the trip if required.

Supporting pupils on the autism spectrum.

We use a range of multi-sensory teaching and learning styles.

We use a number of common fundamental principles that make for successful teaching of pupils on the autism spectrum.

These include:

- Intensive, structured and purposeful teaching.
- Clear, unambiguous and explicit instructions and teaching strategies.
- Use of repetition to consolidate.
- Re-teaching in different contexts and in different ways, not assuming that the pupil has understood because they have repeated or demonstrated something.
- Using a communicative form that the pupil understands and can use to convey ideas to others i.e.: visual, audio or kinaesthetic learning, giving students the opportunity for learning to be achieved through experience of the world.
- Giving opportunities for learning with a personal meaning that is interesting and motivating.
- A high level of adult support and tuition.

C.PIERCY - SEPTEMBER 2016