Charging and Remissions Policy

Policy Statement

The Education Act 1996: Sections 449-462 specifies the law regarding the fee that can be charged and can not be charged for activities in LA maintained schools in England and Wales. The Act sets out what activities the governing body can and can not charge for where these take place during or outside school hours, including residential activities. The Act also states that charging policies and remissions may be implemented by each governing body.

Education during School Hours

Pupils can not be charged for admission to maintained schools or for education provided during school hours, including materials, books, equipment and transport provided during school hours from LA or the school to carry pupils between school and activity. The meaning of 'school hours' are those hours when school takes place, and do not include the break in the middle of the school day. Both parents and others the right to obtain information on school hours and must include that information in manuals issued by the school.

Sometimes it can happen partial activity during school hours and partly outside them. Should the majority of time spent on non-residential activity during school hours, the activity that counts as an activity that occurs exclusively during school hours and can not be charged. (Time spent traveling counts as time during school hours unless the travel takes place during school hours.)

Can not charge the parents for activities that take place outside school hours when these activities necessary part of the National Curriculum or religious education.

A charge of other activities taking place outside of school hours if parents agree to pay. The Education Act 1996 describes the activities chargeable as 'optional extras'.

Residential activities

There are special rules for residential activities. The trip counts as one that occurs during school hours if the number of school sessions missed by pupils in half the number of half days spent on the activity or more than that. Usually divided into two sessions each school day and every 24-hour period is divided into two half days beginning at noon and at night.

On this basis, a trip during term time from midday Wednesday until 9pm on Sunday would last for nine days-half, including five school sessions, which would count as happens during school time. A trip from noon Thursday through Sunday at 9pm count as a half-day seven, including three school sessions, and for the purposes of charging would be classified as having occurred outside of school hours. If 50% or more half-day residential trip, counting all of the half-day as spent on the trip.

In the case of residential activity which occurs mainly during school time, or relating to the national curriculum or religious education, can not be charged for the cost of the education or travel. Under these circumstances, however, may be charged for board and lodging, except in the case of pupils whose parents receive one or more of the following:

• Income Support;

• JSA - based on income;

• receive any other benefit or allowance, or entitled to any tax credit under the Tax Credits Act 2002 or an element of such a tax credit, as determined by regulations from time to time during any period or part of a tour conducted tour.

Currently determined the following:

• support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;

• Child Tax Credit, provided that the parent / parents also receive Working Tax Credit and that family income (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) is above £ 16,040 (for 2009/10) (ie children who are eligible for free school meals).

The head notify all parents that they can claim free activities if they receive these benefits.

Charging and Remission of Charges

If there is a charge on each pupil, this will not be exceed the actual cost. If you need to raise more funds, for example, to help hardship cases, then this is done through voluntary contributions or fundraising in general.

Voluntary contributions

Although the school can not charge for activities during school hours, can invite parents and others to make voluntary contributions (in cash or in kind) to make school funding go further. An all requests to parents for voluntary contributions make it quite clear that it would be voluntary contributions. The governing body also made it clear that children of parents who do not contribute are treated differently. If a particular activity can not proceed without some help from parents, should be made clear to them during the planning stage.

Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to enable the activity progresses, and when he can not find the rest of the money, then it must be canceled. The essential point is that no pupil may be of activity because he can not or will not the parents make a contribution of any kind.

A weekly contribution of £ 1.50 towards transport to swimming lessons.

Musical Instruments Tuition

Ceredigion County Council are responsible for charges for instrumental lessons.

Activities which are not being run by the School or LA

If parents want their children to attend a school activity outside the school and it is not activity that the school is organized, they will have to ask the school to agree to their children being absent, just as they would if they wanted to take their children out of school for a family holiday.

When given the school building to a service agency / organization will be charged in accordance with local guidelines Ceredigion Education Authority.

You could add the following wording to your school's Charging and Remissions Policy:

The school is committed to ensuring that no pupil is excluded from educational, residential, enrichment, or extracurricular opportunities due to financial hardship. Financial support may be available for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to assist with the cost of school trips, residential visits, and after-school clubs. Where appropriate, the school may offer reduced charges or full remission of fees, in accordance with Welsh Government guidance and the school's remissions arrangements. Parents and carers are encouraged to contact the school in confidence to discuss any support that may be available.