William Cobbett Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy Statutory

Autumn 2025
Review: Autumn 2027

We aim to provide a broad, balanced, creative and rich curriculum for all children in our care. All activities that are a necessary part of the National Curriculum plus religious education will be provided free of charge, this includes the materials and equipment needed for the lessons. A small charge may be made where a child's parents wish them to take a product home following a curriculum activity, eg cookery or DT. However, it is recognised that many educationally valuable activities have been, and will continue to be, dependent on voluntary financial contributions in whole or part from parents. Without that financial support, the School would find it impossible to maintain the quality and breadth of educational experiences provided for the children. The types of activities involving additional costs include travelling to another venue, visitors to the school who provide a service, and horse riding. Charges are also made for instrumental tuition provided during the school day.

Educational Visits and Visitors:
For visits or visitors, eg. theatre companies, during school time the Headteacher will invite a voluntary contribution from parents to meet the cost of the visit. Every effort will be made to keep these costs reasonable. When charges are made for any activity, whether during or outside of the school day, they will be based on the actual costs incurred, divided by the total number of pupils participating. No child will be excluded from an activity or visit because their parents are unable or unwilling to make a voluntary contribution. However, where voluntary contributions are insufficient to cover the costs involved, the visit or activity may be cancelled.

Residential Visits:
For residential visits the school offers parents a choice as to whether or not their child attends. Parents are expected to pay for board and lodging and we reserve the right to cancel a place where payment has not been made. Parents who can prove they are in receipt of certain benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging and should make an appointment to discuss this with the headteacher at the earliest opportunity. The school will ask for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of transport and any activities during the visit. Although this payment is voluntary, and no child will be excluded from attending the residential if their parent is unable to pay the voluntary contribution, visits may be cancelled without sufficient financial support from parents. The school will ensure that payments can be spread out over a period of several months to make this more manageable for parents.

After School Clubs
Many of our after-school clubs are run by outside providers and are chargeable. Clubs run by school staff also incur a small fee to cover the cost of any materials. Information about clubs is sent out to parents each term.

Parents/Carers Experiencing Hardship
Where parents/carers are experiencing difficulty in paying for any trips, visits or clubs, they should speak to the Headteacher in confidence and additional funding may be sought to ensure no child is disadvantaged.

Lost or Damaged Equipment:
Parents may be asked to pay for damage to school property or equipment which is damaged as a result of a child's behaviour. The charge will be based on the cost to the school to replace/repair the damaged item. If this is significantly high, a contribution will be expected. There will be a charge of £5.00 per book lost.

Monitoring
This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Board and may be amended if appropriate. Any eventuality not covered for by this Policy will be considered by the Headteacher and Governors and a decision made in line with the latest DfE guidance.