

CRADLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

Introduction

This policy has been formulated in accordance with Authority's guidance on: Charging for School Activities.

Aim

The aim of this policy is to set out what charges will be levied for activities, what remissions will be implemented and the circumstances under which voluntary contributions will be requested from parents.

Responsibilities

The Governing Body of Cradley CE are responsible for determining the content of the policy and the Headteacher for implementation. Any determinations with respect to individual parents will be considered jointly by the Headteacher and Governing Body.

Prohibition of Charges

The Governing Body of the School recognise that the legislation prohibits charges for the following:

- education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment);
- education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education;
- tuition for pupils learning to play musical instruments if the tuition is required as part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education;
- entry for a prescribed public examination, if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school;
- examination re-sit(s) if the pupil is being prepared for the re-sit(s) at the school;
- education provided on any trip that takes place during school hours;
- education provided on any trip that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education;
- Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential trip;
- transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local education authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport;
- transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing body or local education authority has arranged for pupils to be educated;

- transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he has been prepared for that examination at the school;
- transport provided in connection with an educational trip.

Publication of Information

A summary of this policy will be included in our School Prospectus which will specify what charges are/are not to be made and for which activities voluntary contributions will be invited from parents.

Charges

Charges may be levied by the school for the following items:

- (a) board and lodging on residential visits (not to exceed the costs)
- (b) the proportionate costs for an individual child of activities wholly or mainly outside school hours ('optional extras') to meet the costs for:
 - (i) travel
 - (ii) materials and equipment
 - (iii) non-teaching staff costs
 - (iv) entrance fees
 - (v) insurance costs
- (c) individual tuition in the playing of a musical instrument
- (d) re-sits for public examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school
- (e) costs of non-prescribed examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school
- (f) any other education, transport or examination fee unless charges are specifically prohibited
- (g) breakages and replacements as a result of damages caused wilfully or negligently by pupils
- (h) extra-curricular activities and school clubs.
- (i) a school lunch – if a child has forgotten or is unable to find their lunch, a cooked meal or sandwich lunch will be provided by the school kitchen and the charge for this should be paid by the parent.

Remissions

Children whose parents are in receipt of the following support payments will, in addition to having a free school lunch entitlement, also be entitled to the remission of charges for board and lodging costs during residential school trips. The relevant support payments are:

- a) Income Support;
- b) Income based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- c) Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- d) Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- e) The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- f) Child Tax Credit, where the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and whose annual income (as assessed by HMRC) does not exceed the current specified amount – (£16,190) please contact the School Office to confirm this figure.

In respect of (f) above account will be taken of any revision to the amount as advised by the Authority.

Any additional specific grant funding received for the purpose of subsidising activities will allocated to pupils following discussion by the Staffing and Finance Committee.

Voluntary Contributions

Parents will be invited to make a voluntary contribution for the following:

- a) Trips and visits arranged both in and out of school time
- b) Specific sessions arranged during school time, eg, visiting theatre performances, history groups, musical performances, animal displays etc
- c) Additional sporting activities, eg, swimming lessons

The terms of any request made to parents will specify that the request for a voluntary contribution and in no way represents a charge in addition the following will be made clear to parents:

- a) that the contribution is genuinely voluntary and a parent is under no obligation to pay; and
- b) that registered pupils at the school will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution in response to the request.

The responsibility for determining the level of voluntary contribution is delegated to the Headteacher.

Voluntary contributions will be used to:

- Offset additional costs to the school of offering such enhancing opportunities as listed above, by contributing towards charges such as

admission fees, transport to visits and trips, payment for theatre groups and other professionals / coaches visiting school and additional activities taking place in school.

Whilst such contributions are voluntary, it should be understood that failure to generate sufficient contribution towards the cost of an activity may result in its cancellation due to funding from School's funds alone being inadequate to sustain the activity. Where voluntary contributions make up less than 80% of the cost of the event, it will be cancelled.

Where voluntary contributions make up between less than 80% and 90% of the cost of the event, the school Fund committee will decide depending on the nature of the visit and the available funds

Where voluntary contributions make up 90% of the cost of the event, the shortfall will be provided by school fund.

Date last reviewed: May 2026

Reviewed by: C Warford

Governor approval: May 2026

Due to be reviewed: May 2027