



Preesall Fleetwood's Charity CE School Charging and Remissions Policy

Our School Vision Statement

'You are the light of the world. A school built on a hill cannot be hidden.'

Matthew 5:14 (adapted)

We will do our best, be kind, share ourselves with our community and shine from our hill, out into the world. At Fleetwood's Charity, we create a happy caring environment based on Christian Values, where we value every child and encourage them to strive for their highest standards of achievement. We ensure that our young people go into the world as confident, independent, responsible citizens with a love for learning.

Our Vision Statement pays homage to our belief that there is something potentially wonderful in each individual, and that this is something to be proud of and share with others.

Charging Policy

Legislation and Guidance:

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DFE) on [charging for school activities](#) (May 2018) and the Education Act 1996, sections 449-462 of which set out the law on charging for school activities in maintained schools in England.

Definitions:

- Charge: a fee payable for specifically defined activities
- Remission: the cancellation of a charge which would normally be payable

Roles and Responsibilities:

The Governing Body

The governing body has overall responsibility for approving the charging and remissions policy but can delegate this to a committee or the head teacher.

The governing body also has overall responsibility for monitoring the implementation of this policy.

In our school, responsibility for approving the charging and remissions policy has been delegated to the Resources Committee.

In our school, monitoring the implementation of this policy has been delegated to the Resources Committee.

The Headteacher:

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring staff are familiar with the charging and remissions policy and that it is being applied consistently.

Staff:

Our staff are responsible for:

- Implementing the charging and remissions policy consistently
- Notifying the headteacher of any specific circumstances which they are unsure about or where they are not certain if the policy applies

Parents:

Parents are expected to notify staff or the headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding the charging and remissions policy.

Activities without charge and Voluntary contributions

In accordance to the guidelines, Fleetwood's Charity School will not charge for:

Books, materials, equipment and instruction in connection with the National Curriculum or Religious Education taught at school, except where parents have indicated in advance their wish to purchase the product.

All activities that are a necessary part of the National Curriculum during school time. However, we may permit organisations to charge parents when such an organisation is acting independently of the school, to arrange an activity to take place during school hours and parents want their children to join in the activity. In this instance, we may ask for a voluntary contribution.

Educational Visits

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- Visits to museums;
- Sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- Outdoor adventure activities;
- Visits to the theatre;
- Visiting theatre groups;
- The Life Education Centre;
- Musical events
- Revision Books (Year 6)

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity.

Clubs and Coaching

The school offers sporting and other extra-curricular clubs, out of school hours. Mostly these are run on a voluntary basis by staff, parents and coaches and these will normally be free to pupils. When there are extra costs, such as materials for art club, gardening club or ingredients for the healthy cookery club, there may be a small charge e.g. £1 to cover costs, but not to make a profit.

Where charges can be made

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we ask parents to contribute towards the cost of education and travel and charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Saving is made more manageable by operating a savings scheme and costs are reduced as far as possible through fund-raising activities. Parents in difficult circumstances, including those receiving state benefits are encouraged to confidentially discuss ways to contribute and reduce charges, and each case will be considered individually. It is the school's intention that no child will be excluded from any school activity or residential visit due to the family's financial situation: we aim to provide affordable experiences and will find ways to help with costs when necessary.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons.

We make a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year and whenever places become available.

At present the charge for peripatetic music lessons is £50 per term, the cost to school is higher than this, so the school is subsidising these lessons.

This is to encourage as many children as possible to learn to play an instrument.

Dance Classes

We are linked to the Laura Sandham School of Dance who provide dance classes for our pupils. The dance school charges parents for classes and school subsidises the cost using PE Premium funding.

Pre-School

The Pre-School is run by a management committee and although they use the school premises, they are a separate organisation that pays rent to school. Their management committee sets the charges and aims to be fully self-financing, but is not a requirement.

Breakfast Club and After-School Club

The Breakfast Club and After-School Club is run by school to support parents by providing out-of-school-hours care for children on role at our school. Charges are set with the aim to cover the running costs, but it is not a requirement.

REMISSIONS POLICY

Parents who are receiving Universal Credit may be exempt from paying for board and lodgings on residential trips. Charges for other 'chargeable activities' may also be fully or partly remitted.

At the discretion of the Head teacher, family circumstances may be considered and reduced charges agreed.

Details of any remission arrangements will be made clear when parents are informed of changes for individual activities.

Signed: Mrs V. Gladwin

Headteacher

Date: January 2022