

UNITED SCHOOLS TRUST

Kingsteignton School



CHARGING & REMISSIONS POLICY

Introduction:

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that there is clarity over those items which the United Schools Trust will provide free of charge and for those items where there may be a charge.

The policy has been formed by the LEA policy and the DfE guidance and complements the school's policy.

Definition:

At Kingsteignton School the school day is defined as 0835h - 1500h

The mid-day break does not form part of the school day.

Responsibilities:

The Principal will ensure that staff are familiar with and correctly apply the policy. The trustees will review the policy annually.

Policy Statement:

During the school day all activities that are a necessary part of the National Curriculum, plus religious education, will be provided free of charge. This includes any materials, equipment and transport to take pupils between the school and the activity. It excludes charges made for teaching an individual pupil or groups of up to four pupils to play a musical instrument. Unless the teaching is an essential part of either the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil(s), we will make a charge. (See below).

Voluntary contributions may be sought for activities during the school day which entail additional costs (for example, field trips). In these circumstances no pupil will be prevented from participating because his/her parents cannot or will not make a contribution. (If insufficient funds are available, it may be necessary to curtail or cancel activities).

From time to time, we may invite a non-school based organisation such as a visiting drama group or storyteller to arrange an activity during the school day. Such organisations may wish to charge parents who may, if they wish, ask the Principal to agree to their child being absent for that period.

Optional activities outside of the school day

We will charge for optional, extra activities provided outside of the school day, for example football clubs, theatre visits. Such activities are not part of the National Curriculum or religious education nor are they part of an examination syllabus.

Education partly during the school day

If a non-residential activity happens partly inside the school day and partly outside of it, there will be no charge if most of the time to be spent on the activity falls within the school day. Conversely, if the bigger proportion of time spent falls outside of the normal school day, charges will be made. When such activities are arranged parents will be told how the charges were calculated.

Residentials

Charges will be made for board and lodging, except for pupils whose parents are in receipt of eligible benefits where a reduction in cost will be provided where possible. Other charges will be made to cover costs when the number of school sessions missed by the pupil totals half or more of the number of half-days taken up by the activity. In such cases parents will be told how the charges were calculated.

Minibus

Where pupils have the use of the United Schools Trust mini-bus, travel is often free. When charges have to be made (for example to cover costs incurred as part of a school trip) parents will be told how the charges were calculated.

Calculating charges

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. There will be no levy on those who can pay to support those who cannot or will not. Support for cases of hardship will come through voluntary contributions and fundraising.

Parents who would qualify for support are those who are in receipt of eligible benefits.

Music Tuition

In cases of hardship the trustees will consider in their absolute discretion the remission of fees (either in full or in part) for those pupils who they consider will benefit from such tuition.

Eligible benefits

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; or Child Tax Credit (providing that they do not also receive Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, assessed by The Inland Revenue, that does not exceed the published limit).

Universal Tax Credit

Guaranteed State Pension Credit

The United Schools Trust will review the policy annually.

Policy Approved:	April 2023
Next Review:	April 2024