



Arbour House School

Charging and Remissions policy for activities

Policy Review Date: **November 2016**

CHARGES AND REMISSIONS FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES POLICY

Rationale

The Education Reform Act 1988 requires Governing Bodies to draw up a policy statement in respect of charges and remissions.

Aims

The aim is to ensure that no child is prevented from having full access to activities which support the curriculum as a result of their inability to pay.

Broad Guidelines

- The school follows the provisions of the Education Reform Act 1988 in that no charges are made for activities during the school day, whether on or off the premises, directly related to the requirements of the curriculum.
- The school invites voluntary contributions in support of non-essential activities, which serve to enrich the curriculum or operate as extra curricular activities (i.e. social and leisure activities) whether these take place inside or outside school hours. Only with such contributions can these aspects of the life of the school take place.
- Education outside school hours.
Parents can only be charged for activities that happen outside school hours when these activities are not a necessary part of the curriculum or religious education. No charge can be made for activities that are an essential part of the syllabus for an approved examination.

Charges may be made for other activities that happen outside school hours if parents agree to pay. The Education Act 1996 describes activities, which can be charged for as 'optional extras' e.g. clubs and playschemes. It is up to governing body providing the activities to decide whether to make a charge.

- Letters to parents/carers regarding school trips/residential visits to which there is a cost will contain the phrase 'parents are asked to make a voluntary contribution of £....'
- Where families have difficulty meeting costs in connection with activities defined above they are encouraged to discuss their circumstances with their child's teacher or the Executive Head Teacher.
- Families in receipt of income support, disability allowance, or family credit will be given full remission of the cost of board and lodging for any residential activity organised for the pupil if it is taking place within school hours, or where it forms part of the syllabus for an examination or the National Curriculum.