

BLACKSHAW MOOR CE (VC) FIRST SCHOOL

Policy for Charging and Remissions

It is the policy of the *Governors of Blackshaw Moor First School*, in agreement with the spirit of section 61 of the Education Act (1944) that "no fees shall be charged in respect of admission to Blackshaw Moor First School or in respect of education provided by the school".

As the broad approach of the 1988 Act also prohibits charges for activities which should take place during school hours, the *Governors* state that no child should be denied any part of the education offered by this school irrespective of their economic and financial circumstances. Any charges made by the school will not exceed the cost of provision.

We do not charge for most of our school-time activities that take place in school. However, we make appropriate charges or request a voluntary contribution from parents/carers where an activity increases or enriches non-statutory extra-curricular provision at any time. There is no obligation to contribute and no child will be excluded from any such activity on the basis of non-contribution.

When school time activities include an education visit off site, the *Governors* of this school suggest that parents are asked for voluntary contributions for educational visits. No child will be denied the opportunity of a day visit because of insufficient funds. Costs will be met by the school in these circumstances. Where a visit involves admission to an establishment where there is a charge made for entry, the school may collect the entry fee in advance, as it has not been levied by the *Governors* or the L.A.

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. This charge is paid directly to the school which organises peripatetic music teachers through a service level agreement with Staffordshire Music Department to teach individuals or small group lessons on the school site.

We reserve the right that if payment is not made on behalf of a child that lessons will be withdrawn. Letters will be sent to parents/carers to inform them of any monies owing before such a decision is taken.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for groups of children. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We do not ask for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of transport to and from the pool, provision of a lifeguard/specialist teacher and hire of the pool itself. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

Residential Visits

The school organises an annual residential visits for children. The cost of this trip includes board & lodging, transport, materials, entrance to any sites visited and charges for any activities to be experienced.

The cost of this trip will be based on travel costs, entrance to sites, materials and charges for activities experienced. The governors' policy is for the school to cover the cost of any additional teacher time necessary to lead the trip or subsequent follow up work.

Parents will be given the option of a payment plan to spread the costs of the residential visit.

Optional Extra Activities

The school will charge for clubs that take place after school to cover the costs incurred by the school including use of resources.

Pupil Premium

For pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium, the school will use this money to pay for some extra-curricular activities such as music lessons.

Freedom/Information Act 2000

The school follows the DFE guidance on charging arising from requests under the Freedom of information Act 2000.

Lettings of School Premises

Where an organisation hires the school premises outside of school hours. The school charges a lettings fee to cover the cost of heating, lighting and for opening and closing the building. Full details of this can be seen in a separate Lettings Policy on request.