

The Auriga Academy Trust

CHARGING and REMISSIONS POLICY

AURIGA Academy Trust Document Control System	
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Please note that all Trust policies are reviewed annually. Should you have any queries regards this policy, note an omission or wish to propose an amendment, please email sconnor@strathmore.richmond.sch.uk.

Principles

The position of The Auriga Academy Trust is clear, that no pupil's education should be in anyway compromised by the ability of their parents or carers to pay.

In some cases Pupil Premium may be used to support those pupils who are at risk of a disadvantage experience due to their financial circumstance.

Policy

The Academy Governing Body is required by law to publish a policy on charging for academy (school) activities. The Education Act 1996 establishes the basic principle that the education provided by any maintained school/academy for its registered pupils should be free of charge. This basic underlying principle requires that there should be no school admission charge and no charge for any related activity which takes place during school time.

Exceptions to this general statement are as follows.

- Individual tuition in playing a musical instrument may be charged for provided that it is not part of the National Curriculum or part of the syllabus for a prescribed Public Examination.
- Where parents have indicated that they wish to have the finished product from a particular lesson e.g. individual craft items, pottery, needlework, cookery, a charge may be made to cover materials.
- For all residential visits deemed to be within school hours, or part of the National Curriculum or part of the Syllabus for the prescribed Public Examination, a charge will be made for board and lodging, tuition and any other costs incurred. The charge made will not exceed the cost of providing the activity divided equally between the number of pupils taking part. Parents or carers wishing to claim for financial assistance towards the cost of a residential visit must make the fact known directly to the Head Teacher who will treat any such approach in strictest confidence.
- Optional visits or activities occurring outside of school hours may be charged for in full.
- The school provides without charge all the books, practical equipment etc. required during the day to follow the school's curriculum. Parents may be asked to provide children with some basic equipment for their own personal use at school and at home. This includes stationery.

Within the Education Act it is possible for schools/academies to ask for voluntary contributions from parents. The Board of Trustees has therefore approved the following:

- Voluntary contributions can be invited from parents towards the cost of the schools activities which are related to the life and work of the School, this will include visits and activities during school hours. Such contributions will be genuinely voluntary and no child whose parents feel unable to contribute will be treated differently from the rest. Parents not wishing to make a voluntary contribution in whole or part, but wishing their child to be included, must make the fact known directly to the Head Teacher who will treat any such approach in strictest confidence.
- School visits and activities will be planned in advance and, if sought, voluntary contributions will usually be invited through individual letters to parents. The letter asking for support, will outline the proposed visit, cost, educational value and its relationship to the school curriculum. If insufficient voluntary contributions are received and the trip is considered by the Head Teacher to not be financially viable, then it will be cancelled and any monies received will be returned

It is at the Head Teachers discretion as to whether to charge for replacing items of school property damaged by a pupil. This may include windows and IT equipment.

Any amendments to this policy will be made if and when necessary.