

The Firs Lower School  
**Charging and Remissions Policy**



Section 110 of the 1988 Education Reform Act requires each Governing Body to draw up and review its own policy in respect of charges and remissions arrangements, the policy for this school is written in line with the 1988 Act insofar as it is relevant to the requirements of a lower School.

### **Visits and Outings**

The 1988 Education Act makes it illegal for schools to charge parents for any activities taking place during the school day. Parents can however be asked to make a voluntary contribution for the full cost of an activity e.g. educational outings, theatre visits. There is no obligation to contribute and pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution. However, if too many parents feel unable to make a contribution, the activity may not take place.

### **Subsidies**

On occasion the school may elect to subsidise outings taking place in the school day, from the school fund, the delegated budget or make a request to the PTA. The subsidy may:-

- Apply to all children equally.
- Enable particular children whose parents are known to be experiencing financial difficulty to participate.
- Enable an activity or outing which has been insufficiently funded from contributions and which would otherwise be cancelled, to take place

### **Design Technology**

If the products of technology lessons are to be taken home then contributions may be asked for in advance, to cover the costs of the ingredients and/or materials used. Alternatively teachers may sometimes choose to ask for materials and/or ingredients to be brought into school.

### **Loss or damage to property**

Charges may be made, at the school's discretion, to cover the replacement cost of lost or wilfully damaged items e.g. reading and library books

### **Music lessons and musical Instruments**

- The LA Music Service offers individual/group music tuition during the school day. A fee is charged for these lessons, which includes the hire of the instrument.
- Fees for these services are set by and handled directly by the LA Music Service.

### **Outside the school day. - After school activity clubs**

- A range of short after school clubs are organised and run by members of the school's teaching staff. No charge is made for pupils attending these clubs. Pupils learning the recorder are expected to purchase their own recorder and book.
- Where a club takes place in the school but is run by an outside instructor / organisation, then a charge will be made and pupils will not be subsidised by the school to attend.

### **Kids Club – before and after school care club**

Before and after school care is organised by 'Kids Club' on behalf of the school. Fees are set by the school in order to meet the cost of providing the service. Financial Regulations do not permit the school to subsidise this in any way but Government schemes are available to subsidise fees for individual parents in need.