



# Charging and Remissions Policy

2017

## CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY



### INTRODUCTION

At Bader Primary school we believe that all pupils should have an opportunity to benefit from a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular activities independent of their parents financial means

The purpose of the policy is to describe how we can best ensure these benefits while at the same time measuring the financial barriers which may prevent some children from taking full advantage of the opportunities provided.

All Education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activities undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. Charge will be made for small group or individual music tuition.

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experiences of the children the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contribution we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution, we do not treat these children differently from any other.

If a parent/carer wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event but is unusually or unable to make a voluntary contribution we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support a visit. Subsidies from various sources e.g. School Fund, Bader PTA, Pupil Premium & voluntary organisations will be used to cover deficits. Surplus finance will be used via the School Fund for benefit of the children.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which may require voluntary contributions from parents/carers. These activities are known as "optional extras". This list is not exhaustive:

- Visits to museums
- Sporting activities
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to or by a theatre company
- Musical events
- School trips
- Transport costs

### RESIDENTIAL VISITS

When the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum we do not make any charge for the education element. However, we make a charge to cover the cost of some activities, board and lodging and travel expenses. If any parents are experiencing difficulty they are invited to speak in confidence to the Head Teacher. Parents/Carers, including those whose children are in a Pupil Premium category, may be offered the option to make a reduced payment depending on circumstances.

A saving scheme operates to allow parents to spread the cost of such trips over a longer period of time.

### MUSIC TUITION

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum and no charge is made for this. There is a charge for individual or small group tuition since this is an additional curriculum activity and not part of the National Curriculum. Again Pupil Premium children will be considered for a reduced payment option.

These sessions are taught by peripatetic music teachers from The Tees Valley Music Service and parents receive information about these opportunities at the start of each school year.

### SWIMMING

The school organises swimming lessons for the children. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity.

### SCHOOL CLUBS

The school offers a range of additional activities out of school hours. These include Breakfast Club and a range of sports clubs. A small charge is made for these children attending these activities either by the school or directly by the club leader.

### CALCULATING CHARGES

Charges are based on the actual costs incurred divided by the number of pupils participating in the activity. There is no levy on those who do make a payment and short falls are met from School Fund, PTA support and other sources.

As previously stated some families are given remission or help with charges based on their individual circumstances.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.