

Charging and Remissions Policy

Brooke Hill Academy Trust



Approved by: Craig Charteris

Date: October 2023

Next review due by: October 2024



BROOKE HILL ACDEMY TRUST

Charging and Remissions Policy

Introduction

Brooke Hill Academy Trust (the Trust) supports the principle of maintaining the right to free school education. However, it recognises that it has the discretion to make charges under certain circumstances.

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on charging for school activities and the Education Act 1996, sections 449 to 462 of which set out the law on charging for school activities in England. Academies are required to comply with this Act through their funding agreements. It's also based on guidance from the DfE on statutory policies for schools and academy trusts. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

The following clarifies its policy and details those areas of activity for which it will bear the cost.

Non-Chargeable Activities

1. There will be no charge for:
 - 1.1 activities which take place wholly or mainly in school hours (except for music or French tuition for individual pupils or pupils in groups);
 - 1.2 any activity_(including music tuition) if it is required by the National Curriculum or R.E.

The Trust may invite voluntary contributions from parents/carers for these activities but there is no obligation to pay, and no child will be excluded where a contribution is not made.

2. Those parents in receipt of Income Based Job Seekers Allowance or Income Support or children in receipt of Pupil Premium are invited to speak to the Head of School about individual arrangements.

Budgeted Activity

3. The following categories of activity will be met by the Trust to the level that the budget for the school permits:
 - 3.1 supply of books, materials, instruments or other equipment for use in connection with education provided during school hours;
 - 3.2 essential protective equipment eg. safety goggles;

- 3.3 ingredients, materials, equipment needed for practical subjects such as art, design and technology;
- 3.4 class musical tuition or group musical tuition in school hours.
- 4. Should a parent/carer wish to access private music tuition for their child by music teachers who visit the school, the parent/carer is responsible for the full cost of that tuition which must be paid by agreement with the teacher.
- 5. For educational trips/visits, the Trust may provide a limited payment (with such support from local charities as may be necessary towards the significant costs of residential visits) to supplement voluntary contributions received from parents towards the costs. This payment is to enable children whose parents are in receipt of income support or income-based job seekers allowance or who are in receipt of pupil premium to have the opportunity of participating in the trip/visit.
- 6. The Trust may charge for optional activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours. The charge for these optional activities for children of families in receipt of income support or income-based job seekers allowance or who are in receipt of pupil premium will be reduced or fully paid, as appropriate.
- 7. If the cost to the Trust of a planned activity is not completely covered by the voluntary contributions and the limited payment referred to above, the activity may be cancelled.

Monitoring arrangements

The finance and business manager monitors charges and remissions and ensures these comply with this policy. The policy will be reviewed every year.