



CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

Adopted by the Trust Board: Oct 2025

Review: Autumn 2026



Updates since last edition

Number section	Title section	Details of changes
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The Board of Trustees has resolved to make charges as allowed by the Education Reform Act 1988.

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1.0 CHARGING POLICY

1.1 Educational visits:

The academy:

- will seek voluntary contributions from parents/carers where applicable
- will not exclude a child from participating in an activity during the school day on financial grounds

Where 10% or more of parents decline to make the requested voluntary contribution (their identity will remain confidential), or the contributions shortfall is £50 or more, then the visit or activity will take place at the discretion of the Headteacher.

1.2 Residential activities:

The costs of residential activities can be high and such activities may only continue to be available if sufficient costs are recovered.

Charges that apply:

- travel costs – transport to and from the residential activity
- board and lodging
 - full cost of board and lodging on residential trips whether or not it takes place during school hours
 - parents / carers will be informed of the cost before the activity takes place
- costs of supply staff engaged to cover the staff accompanying pupils on a residential trip where the trip takes place during term time
- full cost recovery for residential activities that take place outside of school hours

NB. The academy (at the discretion of the Headteacher) may subsidise the cost of any residential trip for children of families claiming free school meals

No charge applies:

- where parents / carers in receipt of certain benefits may claim exemption in accordance with the remissions guidance below
- for education costs incurred on any visit during school hours
- for education costs incurred on any visit outside school hours if it is part of the academy's curriculum

1.3 Music Tuition

Instrumental tuition or singing lessons do not form part of the curriculum but are an additional activity arranged by the academy and delivered by specialist tutors either on an individual basis or as part of a group, following parental request. The cost of such lessons is dependent on the charges applied by the tutors, the size of the group, the duration and frequency of each lesson.

The academy operates on full cost recovery basis. However, in order to ensure equal opportunities for all pupils, charges for music tuition within school hours for pupils eligible for free school meals or children in care will be considered for remission in accordance with this policy (see remissions section).



2.0 Extra-curricular activities:

2.1 Curriculum related clubs

Where these activities run outside of normal school hours, (ie. sports clubs, homework club, art club) a charge may be made to cover costs of equipment, teaching or non- teaching staff, specialist staff /coaches or materials used. The total charge will not exceed the actual costs incurred in the provision of the activity and will be set by the Headteacher in consultation with the CFO.

Parents/carers will be advised of any such costs before their child is allowed to undertake any such activity and participation will be on the basis of the parent's willingness to pay the charges.

Parents/carers are able to claim remission from such charges in accordance with the guidance below.

2.2 Breakfast Club

- 2.2.1 charges apply in accordance with the rules laid down in the academy's separate Breakfast Club agreement, which must be signed by parents/carers before their child is left in the care of breakfast club staff

2.3 After School Club

- 2.3.1 charges apply in accordance with the rules laid down in the academy's separate After School Club agreement which must be signed by parents/carers before their child is left in the care of after school club staff

3.0 Other areas

Charges apply:

- books and materials belonging to the academy that a pupil has lost
- books and materials that a parent wishes a pupil to keep after having been advised of the cost
- activities taking place outside school hours that are not
 - part of the academy's curriculum
 - part of a syllabus for a public examination that the pupil is being prepared for by the academy
 - part of the academy's basic religious education
- property damage – each individual case to be decided upon by the Headteacher
 - full repair costs incurred as a result of wilful or reckless damage to academy property by a pupil or parent/carers
 - full recovery of costs incurred by the academy as a result of damage caused by a pupil to third party property



No charge applies:

- for activities taking place during school hours except any of those listed above
- for transport during school hours for school-organised activities except for educational visits as detailed above
- for activities outside school hours that are part of the
 - set curriculum including sports matches against other academies / schools
 - syllabus for a public examination that the pupil is being prepared for by the academy
- academy's basic religious education syllabus
- for admissions.

4.0 Voluntary contributions

The academy may, from time to time, ask parents/carers for voluntary contributions to the academy's general funds in order to assist with the provision of resources to enhance their children's education. There will be no pressure exerted and any contribution will be gratefully received.

Where the voluntary contribution applies to an educational visit or extra-curricular activity, if the sufficient level of contributions is not achieved, that activity will be cancelled; any monies already collected will be refunded to the relevant parents/carers.

5.0 DBS checks

The academy will cover the cost of DBS checks for all employed staff and volunteers.

6.0 REMISSIONS POLICY

Any remission of charges must receive approval from the CEO and CFO.

The academy will consider the remission of charges to parents or carers who receive the relevant support payments (in accordance with the current DfE listing) which make their child/children eligible for free school meals and for children in care.

All claims for remission of charges should be addressed to the Headteacher and will be dealt with confidentially.

The academy may decide to subsidise part or all of the payment of some charges for certain activities and pupils; each event or case will be considered individually by the Headteacher, CEO and CFO.