



LDBS Frays Academy Trust Charging and Remissions Policy

Version History

Version	Date	Status and Purpose	Changes Overview
1			

Approval

Signed by Chair	
Date of Approval/Adoption	
Date of Review	

Notes on Document

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Once issued, as a minimum this document shall be reviewed on an annual basis or as necessary by the originating team/committee.

To enable continuous improvement, all readers are encouraged to notify the author of errors, omissions and any other form of feedback.

1 Introduction

All education in the LDBS Frays Academy Trust Schools (the Trust) during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

2 Voluntary contributions

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

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling 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 the visit. Parents and carers have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request. All Parents and Guardians who are either unable to make the voluntary contribution are asked to make an appointment to discuss this with the Head or Deputy Head of School.

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

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to or by a theatre company;
- school trips abroad;
- musical events.

3 Residential visits

If 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. However, we do suggest a charge to cover the costs of transport, board and lodging, although parents and carers who receive state benefits are exempt from the board and lodging charge. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways. Parents will be given the option of a payment plan to spread the costs of the residential visit.

4 Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. We make a charge for these lessons, but parents and carers in receipt of state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents and carers information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents and carers when these lessons are to take place.

6 School minibus

We normally charge if children are transported in the minibus to an extra-curricular activity. However, we use these charges only to cover the expenses of the trip, and not to make a profit.

7 Activities not run by the School or Local Authority

When an organisation acting independently of the school or Local Authority arranges an activity to take place during school hours and parents want their children to join the activity, such organisation may charge parents.

8 Charging in Kind

The cost of ingredients, materials, equipment, etc., needed for practical subjects, such as food technology or DT, is budgeted for and borne by the school. However, the school may charge for, or require the supply of ingredients and materials, if the product is to be owned and taken home by the child afterwards, e.g. food products, models containing

electrical equipment or batteries. The school will inform parents prior to activities, giving them the choice to pay for materials or purchase their own materials for the activity.

9 Breakages & Fines

The local governing bodies reserve the right to ask parents to pay for the cost of replacing any item such as:

- broken windows
- defaced, damaged or lost text books
- replacement reading or homework diaries
- any item damaged as a result of unsatisfactory pupil behaviour

10 Special Needs

The Trust that no pupil with special needs or disabilities will be treated any differently than any other pupil. The school will take all reasonable steps to avoid putting children with special needs at a substantial disadvantage.

11 Monitoring and review

This policy is monitored by the local governing bodies, and will be reviewed every two years, or earlier if necessary.