



CHOLLERTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND AIDED FIRST SCHOOL

Be the best you can be through:

challenge, nurture, inspiration, respect, happiness, inclusion, in a safe, loving Christian family.

CHARGE FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES & REMISSION POLICY

This policy complies with the **Education Act 1996** (Sections 449-462) and reflects guidance from the Department for Education. The Governing Body is committed to ensuring that educational activities, trips, and experiences are accessible to all pupils while maintaining a balance to cover costs and encourage contributions for the continuation of valuable extracurricular and enrichment activities.

Charging Policy

1. Education Provided During School Hours

The Governing Body makes **no charge for education or activities** provided during school hours as part of the **published curriculum**. This includes materials, equipment, and transport where necessary for the delivery of the curriculum.

Optional Extra Activities Outside School Hours

Full costs for optional activities that take place outside of school hours, such as residential visits, after-school clubs, and extracurricular trips, may be charged to parents. These costs can include:

- **Travel expenses.**
- **Board and lodging** for residential trips.
- **Materials or equipment** used during the activity.
- Costs for **supervising staff**, though no charge will be made for teachers' salaries.

Residential Visits During School Hours

- For residential visits held **during school hours**, the school may charge for **board and lodging** only.
- Families experiencing financial hardship may apply for **full or partial remission** of these charges (details below).
- Voluntary contributions may still be invited to help cover travel or other associated costs.

Swimming (As Part of the Curriculum)

- Swimming lessons form a mandatory part of the **National Curriculum** and are provided by the school during school hours.
- To support the school in covering the costs associated with **transport to and from the swimming venue**, parents may be asked to make **voluntary contributions**.

- Pupils will not be excluded from swimming lessons if parents are unable or unwilling to make a contribution, but the viability of the swimming programme may depend on sufficient voluntary support.

Musical Instrument Tuition

- **No charge** will be made for the use of musical instruments provided by the school, nor for the cost of tuition provided by the school.
- Charges may be levied for additional instrumental tuition provided by external providers where it does not form part of the National Curriculum.

Materials for Practical Lessons

- **Voluntary contributions** may be requested from parents for materials used in practical lessons such as **Design Technology, Home Economics, or Art**, especially where parents have indicated a desire to own the finished product.
- Pupils will not be excluded from activities if voluntary contributions are not made.

Visits Supporting the Curriculum (Desirable but not Essential)

- The school may offer opportunities to broaden pupils' experiences related to the curriculum through educational trips (e.g., visits to museums, theatres, or historical sites).
- Voluntary contributions from parents may be invited to help cover the cost of these trips.
- Participation in these visits will not be dependent on financial contributions, and no pupil will be treated differently based on their ability or willingness to contribute.

However, the viability of these trips will depend on the level of voluntary financial support received. The Headteacher is responsible for determining the viability of any such trips and activities.

Voluntary Contributions

- The Governing Body encourages parental involvement through **voluntary contributions** for certain activities to ensure they can proceed. Parents will be informed that:
 - Contributions are **voluntary**.
 - No pupil will be excluded from an activity if their parents are unable or unwilling to contribute.
 - If sufficient voluntary contributions are not received, the activity may be **cancelled**.

Remissions Policy

The Governing Body acknowledges the importance of providing equal access to activities for all pupils. For pupils whose families are experiencing financial hardship, the school may offer **full**

or **partial remissions** of charges. Parents or carers in receipt of any of the following benefits may be eligible for assistance:

- **Income Support.**
- **Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance.**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.**
- **The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.**
- **Child Tax Credit** (provided you’re not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190).
- **Universal Credit.**

In such cases, the school may offer financial assistance or provide **longer instalment payment plans** to enable pupils to participate in activities.

Additional Information

- **Refunds:** In the event of an activity being cancelled, or a pupil being unable to attend due to illness, refunds for voluntary contributions or payments may be offered.
- **Transparency:** The cost of each activity will not exceed the actual cost incurred by the school. Where extra funds are generated, they will be retained for future activities or refunded.

Communication with Parents

The school will ensure that all parents are fully informed of the following:

- The nature of any charges or voluntary contributions for specific activities.
- The school's **remission policy** and how to request financial assistance.
- The importance of contributions for ensuring that activities can continue while maintaining fairness for all pupils.

This policy aims to balance the need to cover costs with the commitment to offering educational trips and activities that enhance pupils' learning experiences at minimal cost, while ensuring equal access for all children.

Signed by a member of Staffing, Finance, Health & Safety and Property Committee

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This policy was reviewed: Autumn 2024
Date of next review: Autumn 2026