



Charging and Remissions

Review Period: Annual

Status: Statutory

Next review date: Spring 21

This document sets out the charging and remissions policy of Sunnydown School.

The objectives of the charging provisions in the 1988 Act are:-

- to maintain the right to free school education
- to emphasise that there is no statutory requirement to charge for any form of education or related activity, but to give LAs and schools the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours
- to confirm the right of LAs and schools to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the School and any activity which it organises either in or out of school hours

Admissions

No charge shall be made for admission to the School.

Education During School Hours

No charge shall be made to parents or pupils for education provided that the education takes place wholly or mainly during school hours.

Where there is a cost to a visit or activity during school hours, parents may be asked for a voluntary contribution towards this. Children will not be excluded from the visit if their parents are unwilling or unable to pay.

When places are limited for an activity which is taking place wholly or mainly within school hours, the selection of pupils shall not be based on the willingness or ability of pupils' parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost.

Incidental Charges

The School will ask parents to send in voluntary contribution to School Fund of £10 per half term (£60/year) to help cover the cost of consumables (e.g. Sports Day prizes) and any incidental costs incurred when pupils are on educational visits or other activities outside school.

Educational visits wholly or mainly outside school hours

Visits or additional activities out of school hours are undertaken by staff on a voluntary basis.

These activities will relate to the overall curriculum and may reflect more than one subject area. There is no guaranteed provision in the budget for these activities. Pupils may be charged for these activities with their actual cost being divided by the number of pupils wishing to participate. Parents will also be advised of the staff costs necessary to provide supervision for the activity and asked to pay these as a voluntary contribution. It will be made clear to parents that, unless enough voluntary contributions are forthcoming, the activity will not be able to take place. In this event, the School may seek other sources of funding.

Residential Visits

These may be used to extend the School Curriculum and individual learning programmes. Staff undertake these visits on a voluntary basis.

Parents will be expected to pay all board and lodging charges connected with any residential visit organised by the School except in the case of those pupils whose parents feel unable to make the contribution. This entitlement will be made clear to relevant families when the visit is first suggested. These charges will relate only to the board and lodging for the parents' own child and will not include a subsidy for any other pupil or activity. Parents will also be advised of the total cost of the School trip and invited to make a contribution towards it. It will be made clear to parents at this stage that, unless sufficient voluntary contributions are received, the activity will not take place. These visits will therefore be presented initially as proposed projects until a decision as to their viability can be reached. In this event, the School may also seek other sources of funding.

Use of School Fund

Contributions will be drawn on request from the School Fund for any child whose parents feel unable to make the contribution.

School Fund is used for house point prizes, in-school competition prizes, trips for families in financial hardship, uniform and incidental charges (projects for whole school).

Cost of entering a pupil for a public examination

Charging

- a) A charge will be made for examination entries for prescribed public examinations for which pupils have not been prepared by the School.
- b) When school has prepared a pupil for an exam, entry fees paid or liable to be paid by the delegated budget can be recovered from parents when a pupil:
 - i) fails to complete the course or
 - ii) fails to attend examinations for other than duly certificated medical reasons and thereby fails to complete the examination requirements for a public examination.

In each case, the basis for calculating the charge will be the actual cost of the entry fee.

Remission

The Authority reserves the right to remit some or all of the charges for optional extra activities where voluntary contributions, sponsorship or other forms of subsidy permit. In such cases, the criteria applied for remission will be made clear to parents and other interested parties but children will not be treated differently according to whether their parents have made a voluntary contribution.

Work experience

The Governing Body will determine the extent to which parents will be asked to meet the cost of work experience travel costs where journeys are made direct from home, bearing in mind their arrangements for work experience and the amount of funding provided by the LA.

10. On an annual basis, a summary of charges will be sent to families. In addition, a breakdown of School Dinner Money will be sent. Examples of these are attached to this policy.

SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL – Summary of charges
2020-2021

School Dinner Money

The cost of school dinners will be £2.30 per day. A summary of costs per half term is sent to families who access these and to those who board.

Payment should be made online via ParentMail. If you have any queries, please contact Andrea Lawson in the school office.

School Trips

Additional school trips (Performing Arts and Ski Trip for example) will be charged at full price. These invaluable trips are an important part of our extra-curricular activities.

Curriculum School Trips

We run a vast array of school trips during the year and may ask for voluntary contributions for these. A child is not prevented from attending these trips if payment cannot be made but the school should be made aware in this event.

Food Technology

All families are asked for a voluntary contribution towards ingredients for Food Technology of £20.00 per term. This will show on ParentMail for each school term.

School Fund

All families are asked for a voluntary contribution of £10.00 per half term. This money is used on projects directly related to the young men.

Although some contributions are voluntary, out of courtesy a reminder may be sent.

It is believed that Sunnydown offers an excellent experience for all students. Your cooperation in supporting the school with the above contributions allows ongoing developments. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the above, please do not hesitate in making contact with Andrea Lawson in the school office.