

The Blue School

(Church of England)

Established 1630



**Excellence for all,
Excellence by all
Through the guidance of
Jesus Christ
Our Living Lord**

Policy: Charges and Remissions

Co-ordinator: Finance Committee

Ratified: Summer 2011

Reviewed: 24th February 2017

Next Review: March 2018

To be reviewed annually

CHARGES POLICY

See also *The Blue School Clubs, Visitors and Extra Curricular Activities policy*.

The Blue School is guided by DfE's advice "Charging for school activities" which can be accessed at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charging-for-school-activities>.

In accordance with the Education Act 1996 and with sections 106-111 and 117-118 of the Education Reform Act 1988, the Governors of The Blue School hereby clarify their policy on charging for school activities.

1. **Parental Giving** The school operates a parental giving scheme. This is in accordance with the custom and practice which operates nationally throughout the voluntary aided (VA) sector. Contributions to this scheme are entirely voluntary and all information connected with this scheme is completely confidential. The scheme is administered so that there is complete separation of the scheme from the school's admissions arrangements and process.
2. **Milk** Parents can register and pay for school milk via www.coolmilk.com.
3. **Instrumental Music Tuition** This applies to children receiving instrumental tuition from peripatetic teachers. The Governors have elected to participate in the London Borough of Hounslow (the local education authority)'s Music Service "agency" scheme for such tuition and accordingly charges will be levied both for tuition time and the cost of hire/purchase of instruments and books.
4. **Educational visits** From time to time the school organises visits to museums, theatres, farms or other places of interest. These visits take place during school time and charges levied are voluntary. The school's Governors intend to continue the practice of (only) requesting voluntary contributions for such visits, while ensuring that all children concerned actually participate, whether or not a contribution has been made. However, if the numbers contributing voluntarily decline to a level where the costs to the school are excessive, this policy will have to be revisited and such visits brought to an end.
5. **Incidentals to the Provision of Education** This includes the provision of ingredients/materials/cost of items for areas such as cookery or craft. Such provision is voluntary and no child will be excluded from such an activity on the grounds of his/her parents' unwillingness or inability to pay.
6. **Extra Activities** (See also the school's **Clubs, Visitors and Extra Curricular Activities policy**) Charges will be levied for some extra curricular activities, including visits to school by authors, storytellers and musicians, but (where required) financial support will be available for those who require it.
7. **Extended learning** Clubs such as tennis, football, drama, photography etc are run during lunchtime, after school, and occasionally before school. In some cases nominal charges are levied per pupil to contribute towards the cost of running these clubs.
8. **Year 6 School Journey** Every Summer Term, Year 6 pupils are given the opportunity to attend a residential away week. Financial support is available for those pupils/families who require it.

REMISSIONS POLICY

9. Parents receiving Income Support do not have to pay any charges but may wish to make a contribution. It is the responsibility of the family concerned, however, to inform the Headteacher (*confidentially*) that they are in such circumstances and also when such circumstances end.
10. The Blue School Governors wish to emphasise that there is no obligation to contribute and that no pupil will be omitted from any activity because of parental unwillingness or inability to contribute.

DAMAGE TO / LOST SCHOOL PROPERTY

11. (In line with the school's Behaviour policy) the Blue School Governors will continue the policy of expecting parents to pay for replacement/repair to all items of school property which have been damaged deliberately, due to a pupil's poor behaviour.
12. Parents may be requested to replace school equipment, books etc which have been lost by their child.