

## Charges and Remission Policy

We aim to provide a high quality education for all of our pupils within the constraints of the funds provided by the education authority and central government. The school acknowledges the fact that education within normal school hours is free of any charges, however, the full range of opportunities we offer it is not possible within these financial constraints. This being so financial assistance from parents is often sought through voluntary contributions for such things as educational visits or special events in school. These contributions are voluntary and no child will be excluded from an activity because a voluntary contribution has not been made. When a visit or event is dependent on voluntary contributions this is made clear to parents in a letter and, should insufficient contributions be received, then the occasion will not take place.

There are occasions when the school will make a permitted charge and these are as follows:

### **Residential Visits during Term Time:**

Charges are made for board and lodging. However, pupils whose parents who are in receipt of Income Support; Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance; Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; or Child Tax Credit (providing that they do not also receive Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, assessed by the Inland Revenue that does not exceed £15,575 FY 08/09) and an income related employment and support allowance are exempt from these charges.

### **Musical Instrument Tuition:**

Charges can be made for individual and group music lessons. These lessons are managed in school by Worcestershire Youth Music and payments are made directly to them. The cost of the music teacher will be equally divided between the number of children taking part.

### **Education Outside School Hours:**

For extra-curricular activities a charge may be made. We make no charges for activities run by school staff. However, other organisations running activities in school may make a charge.

We aim to provide the best we can for all of our pupils and would not wish for any child to miss an opportunity because of voluntary contributions or legitimate charges. Parents are urged to talk to the Headteacher, should they have any concerns about payments requested for an activity.