

Kent
Catholic
Schools'
Partnership



'Academies in Christ'
Part of the Archdiocese of Southwark

Policy on Charging and Remissions for School Activities

Date of last review:	January 2021	Date of next review:	January 2023
Author:	Policy and Projects Manager	Owner:	Director of Finance & HR
Type of policy:	Trust-wide	Approval:	Finance & Resources Committee

1. Purpose of Policy

The purpose of this policy is to set out what charges can and cannot be made to pupils at academies that are part of the Kent Catholic Schools' Partnership (KCSP). The policy has been drawn up in accordance with Sections 449-462 of The Education Act 1996 which sets out the law regarding what charges can and cannot be made for activities in schools maintained by local authorities. This also applies to the Academy Trust as set out in our Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State.

2. Circumstances where no charge is made

No charge will be made for:

Education in School

- Education provided wholly or mainly during school hours
- Admission to school for children of compulsory school age.
- Activities that are part of the entitlement curriculum¹ for all pupils, or are part of a prescribed examination syllabus, or part of Religious Education.
- The supply of any materials, books and instruments or other equipment that are a requirement of the entitlement curriculum.

Transport

- Transporting registered pupils to or from the academy premises, where the local authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport.
- Transporting registered pupils to other premises where the Executive Principal/Headteacher or local authority has arranged for pupils to be educated.
- Transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he has been prepared for that examination at the academy.
- Transport provided in connection with an educational visit, which is part of the entitlement curriculum.

Residential visits

- Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours.
- Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the

entitlement curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the academy, or part of Religious Education.

Music Tuition

- Children learning to play musical instruments as part of the entitlement curriculum; or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for by the academy, or part of religious education;
- Cost associated with preparing a pupil for an examination.

Examination Fees

- Entry for a prescribed public examination if the pupil has been prepared for it at the academy.

3. Circumstances where the school may charge parents/carers optional extras

Charges may be made for other activities known as 'optional extras'. Where an optional extra is being provided, a charge may be made for providing materials, books, instruments, or equipment as follows:

Music Tuition

- Musical instrument tuition provided to individual pupils or to a group of not more than four pupils if the teaching of music tuition is not part of the entitlement curriculum.

Transport

- Transport that is not required to take the pupil to the academy or to other premises where the Executive Principal/Headteacher has arranged for the pupil to be provided with education.

Examination Fees

- An examination that is independent of the academy curriculum, but the academy arranges for the pupil to take it.
- Exam re-sit fees may be payable by the candidate.

Board and Lodgings

- The cost of board and lodging for residential trips, even when taking place largely during school time. (Pupils whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits are exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging).

Voluntary Contributions

- Although academies cannot charge for school time activities, voluntary contributions may be sought from parents for activities that supplement the normal academy curriculum. Requests to parents for voluntary contributions will state that:
 - there is no legal obligation to make a voluntary contribution;
 - pupils will not be excluded through parents' inability or unwillingness to pay;
 - pupils of parents who cannot contribute will not be treated any differently;
 - where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible and

there is no way to make up the shortfall, the activity will be cancelled.

- Requests made for voluntary contributions made in respect of individual pupils must not include any element of subsidy for any other pupils wishing to participate in the activity whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge.

Remissions

- Parents whose children are eligible for free school meals will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging of a residential trip.
- The Executive Principal/Headteacher may wish to remit in full or in part, the cost of other activities for parents in certain circumstances.

Supplementary Information

- Parents can be invited to equip their child with items of personal equipment intended for use solely by their child such as uniform, P.E. kit, calculators, and stationery, etc.

Breakages and Damage

- Where a student's behaviour results in damage to academy property or equipment, parents may be asked to pay for the necessary repair or replacement. Each incident will be dealt with on its own merit and at the Executive Principal/Headteacher's discretion.