

Model policy

> Make this policy your own!

1. Insert your school name and logo where indicated on the next page
2. Read through the document and make changes as instructed in [...] or yellow highlight. Delete the instructions as you go. Note: you don't need to edit the contents list directly (see step 4)
3. When you have finalised your document, make a note of step 4 below and then delete this cover page. (Right-click on the blue border above this text and select 'Cut')
4. Refresh the contents list so that the page numbers are correct. (Right-click anywhere on the contents list, click on 'Update field', then select 'Update entire table' and 'OK')
5. Save the document as normal

> Important:

All our policies take account of relevant requirements and good practice but are designed for you to adapt to suit your context.

Academies, including free schools: please ensure, where applicable, that your adapted policy meets any relevant conditions in your funding agreement/articles of association, as these can vary.

To keep things simple we use the term '**school**'* as standard to mean the educational establishment that is adopting this policy.

Similarly, we use '**governing board**' and '**governor**'* to mean the accountable body for the school and the representatives on that body.

You are welcome to change these references to suit your context. In all cases you should ensure that roles and responsibilities meet requirements.

**Except in policies that apply only to academies, for example, or when explaining requirements for specific school types*

Approved
by **forbessolicitors.**

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Charging and remissions policy

Lydalls Nursery School



Governors Authorisation

Signature _____ Date _____

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1. Aims

Our school aims to:

- Have robust, clear processes in place for charging and remissions
- Clearly set out the types of activity that can be charged for and when charges will be made

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on [charging for school activities](#) and [the Education Act 1996](#), sections 449-462 of which set out the law on charging for school activities in England.

3. Definitions

- **Charge:** a fee payable for specifically defined activities
- **Remission:** the cancellation of a charge which would normally be payable

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The governing board

The governing board has overall responsibility for approving the charging and remissions policy, but can delegate this to a committee, an individual governor or the headteacher.

At Lydalls all statutory policies, such as the Charging and Remission policy, are approved by governors at a Full Governing Board (FGB) meeting.

The governing board also has overall responsibility for monitoring the implementation of this policy.

4.2 Headteachers

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring staff are familiar with the charging and remissions policy, and that it is being applied consistently.

4.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Implementing the charging and remissions policy consistently
- Notifying the headteacher of any specific circumstances which they are unsure about or where they are not certain if the policy applies

The school will provide staff with appropriate training in relation to this policy and its implementation.

4.4 Parents

Parents are expected to notify staff or the headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding the charging and remissions policy.

5. Where charges cannot be made

Below we set out what we **cannot** charge for:

5.1 Education

- Admission applications
- Education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)
- Instrumental or vocal tuition, for pupils learning individually or in groups, unless the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent

5.2 Transport

- Transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport
- Transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing board or local authority has arranged for pupils to be educated
- Transport provided in connection with an educational visit

5.3 Visits and Trips

- 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 EYFS curriculum
 - Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a trip or visit.

6. Where charges can be made

Below we set out what we **can** charge for:

6.1 Education

- Any materials, books, instruments or equipment, where the child's parent wishes him or her to own them
- Optional extras (see section 6.2)
- Music and vocal tuition, in limited circumstances (see section 6.3)
- Certain early years provision
- Community facilities

6.2 Optional extras

We are able to charge for activities known as 'optional extras'. In these cases, schools can charge for providing materials, books, instruments or equipment. The following are optional extras:

- Transport (other than transport that is required to take the pupil to school or to other premises where the local authority or governing board has arranged for the pupil to be provided with education)
- Extended day services offered to pupils (such as breakfast clubs)

When calculating the cost of optional extras, an amount may be included in relation to:

- Any materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in connection with the optional extra
- The cost of buildings and accommodation
- Non-teaching staff
- Teaching staff engaged under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra (including supply teachers engaged specifically to provide the optional extra)
- The cost, or an appropriate proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, or vocal tuition, where the tuition is an optional extra

Any charge made in respect of individual pupils will not be greater than the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally by the number of pupils participating.

Any charge will not include an element of subsidy for any other pupils who wish to take part in the activity but whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge.

In cases where a small proportion of the activity takes place during school hours, the charge cannot include the cost of alternative provision for those pupils who do not wish to participate.

Parental agreement is necessary for the provision of an optional extra which is to be charged for.

6.3 Music tuition

Schools can charge for vocal or instrumental tuition provided either individually or to groups of pupils, provided that the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent.

Charges may not exceed the cost of the provision, including the cost of the staff giving the tuition.

Charges cannot be made:

- If the teaching is an essential part of the curriculum.
- For a pupil who is looked after by a local authority

7. Voluntary contributions

As an exception to the requirements set out in section 5 of this policy, the school is able to ask for voluntary contributions from parents to fund activities during school hours which would not otherwise be possible.

Some activities for which the school may ask parents for voluntary contributions include:

We may ask parents/carers for voluntary contributions for trips and visits – such as to facilitate a traveling farm to visit the nursery, a company providing a hatching eggs experience or a trip to the local theatre.

There is no obligation for parents to make any contribution, and no child will be excluded from an activity if their parents are unwilling or unable to pay.

If the school is unable to raise enough funds for an activity or visit then it will be cancelled.

8. Activities we charge for

The school will charge for the following activities:

We charge for our extended hours 'wrap around' breakfast and lunch clubs.

The charge is calculated as per the schedule of fees and reviewed and approved by the governing board annually.

Parents will be informed of the charges for the coming year in advance, in accordance with Chameleon Club Club terms and conditions.

9. Remissions

In some circumstances the school may not charge for items or activities set out in sections 6 and 8 of this policy. In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged pupils, the governing body has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can legally be made will be offered at no charge or a reduced charge to parents in particular circumstances including those in receipt of:

- 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 Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided that Working Tax Credit is not also received and the family's annual gross income does not exceed £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (this is paid for 4 weeks after an individual stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (if the application was made on or after 1 April 2018, the family's income must be less than £7,400 per year – after tax and not including any benefits)

Policy Re-Written: Autumn 2021

Next review due: Autumn 2022

