

Hazelwick School Charging for School Activities

The Governors wish to make clear their determination to support and encourage as wide a range of activities for students as possible, both within the day-to-day curriculum, outside that curriculum and beyond the school day. The Governors are aware of the high costs involved, both to parents/ carers and the school, in maintaining a full programme of events, visits and activities for all age groups throughout the school year.

In accordance with the terms of the 1996 Education Act, the Governors have prepared this statement of their policy on charging.

Policy

The Governors have considered the detailed guidance given by the Department for Education in May 2018 and, as Governors of an academy, propose to charge only for those activities allowed within the guidelines of that circular. The document is available through the link;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charging-for-school-activities>

In summary, this means that charges will be made for:

- Board and lodging on residential visits
- Costs associated with individual tuition in the playing of a musical instrument, whether in or out of school hours [unless it is provided as part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination, or is required by the national curriculum]
- Activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours, but which are not provided as part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination and are not required in order to fulfil statutory studies relating to the national curriculum or to religious education
- The cost of entering a student for a public examination not prescribed in regulations, and for preparing the student for such an examination outside school hours
- Re-sits of prescribed public examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school
- Failure without good reason to complete the examination requirements for any public examination for which the Governing Body has authorised the payment of an entry fee

In cases of hardship, the Governors authorise the Headteacher, on their behalf, to remit, either as a whole or in part, any charges which could be levied (see above). The Governors will expect the Headteacher to use her discretion in the light of circumstances in each case.

The Governors have also decided to continue to ask for voluntary contributions from parents, even in cases where no charge can be levied. This will be on the clear understanding that:

- There is no obligation to contribute, and
- No student will be treated differently according to whether or not his/her parents/carers have contributed

The Governors must, however, make it clear that, because of the financial constraints under which they operate, they reserve the right not to proceed with any activity which could not be funded principally by voluntary contributions.

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| 3 | November 2023 | A review of the document and verification of sources and dates |
| 4 | November 2024 | Document reviewed for dates and source verification. May 2018 DfE document is still the most recent guidance. |
| 5 | November 2025 | Reviewed, the most up to date guidance - continues to be from May 2018. |