

FINSTALL FIRST SCHOOL

CHARGES AND REMISSIONS POLICY

PERSON RESPONSIBLE: Head Teacher

The Governors are concerned that all pupils should be able to participate in curriculum activities regardless of their financial circumstances.

Background

The legal framework relating to charging, voluntary contributions and remissions is set out in sections 449 to 462 of the Education Act 1996. The basic principle governing the making of charges is that no charge shall be made for the provision of education to a registered pupil at a maintained school during school hours. There are, however, a number of specific exceptions to this general rule, which are set out in the "Worcestershire County Council Directorate of Educational Services, Charging and Remissions Policy."

Applying for Remissions

Under normal circumstances charges and contributions will be remitted in accordance with the Local Authority's procedure for the award of Free School Meals. Children who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding or who are Looked After may also have charges remitted and the funding used to meet such additional costs. Additional and exceptional cases may also be considered on receipt of a detailed request.

Application for remissions should be made to the Head Teacher. These will be kept in the strictest confidence.

Funding Remissions

Funding to address remissions, granted by the Governing body, will be paid for by the school. In the case of pupils who receive pupil premium funding, this funding may be used.

Voluntary Contributions

The Governing Body may request voluntary contributions "for the benefit of the school or any school activities."

Voluntary contributions will be sought to allow access for the children to activities / events that would provide extra enrichment to the curriculum, during school time, at an additional cost to the school. Without such contributions, the school may not be able to afford to provide access to such activities / events.

There is no obligation for any parent / guardian to make a contribution and pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made a contribution.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Charges and Remissions Application Form.

This policy was accepted at a meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee on: 10th October 2016.

This policy will be reviewed: October 2017

Governor responsible: Mr Andy George

APPENDIX 1

FINSTALL FIRST SCHOOL **CHARGES AND REMISSIONS**

APPLICATION FORM

The School's Remissions Policy indicates that charges will be remitted in respect of children who qualify for pupil premium funding or for free school meals, according to the LA's criteria, which requires parents/carers to be in receipt of:

- a) Income Support, or
- b) Job Seekers Allowance – Income Based
- c) Employment and support allowance – Income related
- d) Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- e) Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit* and have an annual income, as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190.
- f) Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

*Children are eligible for FSM for a 4 week period immediately after the parent / carer becomes unemployed, or reduces their hours to less than 16 hours / week, but is still in receipt of Working Tax Credit. Copy of Tax Credit Decision Notice is required to claim under this criteria.

This criteria is correct at October 2016, but could be subject to change in the future.

Child's Name

Date of Trip

Related Trip/Excursion

I request support towards the cost of the above mentioned trip. I enclose one of the following:-

1. A photocopy of the decision letter from the Benefits Agency, showing my entitlement to Income Support, Job Seeker's Allowance - Income Based. This must be dated within the last three months.
2. A photocopy of my Inland Revenue Tax Credit Award (TC602) or Pension Credit Award Notice (M1000).

If you cannot provide us with either 1) or 2), take this form to the Benefits Agency or Job Centre, where an authorised officer should complete Section A below.

Signed parent/guardian

Date

If none of the above applies but you feel unable to meet the full cost of this trip, please could you submit a detailed request in writing to the Head Teacher. He will need to discuss requests with a member of the governing body. Such requests will be treated individually and with the strictest confidence.

Please return this form to the Head Teacher at your earliest convenience.

SECTION A (to be completed by the Benefits Agency/Job Centre, where no other proof is available)

I hereby certify that Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

of

is currently in receipt of Income Support/Job Seekers Allowance – Income Based.

National Insurance Number

Signature of Officer at Benefits Agency/Job Centre

Date

Official Stamp: