



The Smith Foundation

Charging and Remissions Policy

Policy Details

Status:	In-house
Approval by:	Sue Ackroyd
Frequency of review:	3 yearly
Lead member of staff:	Leanne Clarke
Last reviewed:	Summer Term 2024
Next Review Date:	Summer Term 2027
Policy Number:	FWS38

1.0 Aims

Our Foundation 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

2.0 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.

3.0 Definitions

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

4.0 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 principal.

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

Across our Foundation, responsibility for approving the charging and remissions policy has been delegated to the Executive Principal/CEO.

4.2 The Executive principal

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

4.3 Staff

Our staff are responsible for:

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

The senior leadership team 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 Executive Principal of any concerns or queries regarding the charging and remissions policy.

5.0 Where charges cannot be made to parents / carers

Below we set out **what the Foundation cannot charge parents / carers for:**

5.1 Education

- Admission applications
- Education
- Instrumental or vocal tuition
- Entry for a prescribed public examination
- Examination re-sit(s)

5.2 Transport

- Transporting students to or from the school or college premises, where the local authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport
- Transporting registered students to other premises where the governing board or local authority has arranged for students to be educated
- Transport that enables a student to meet an examination requirement
- Transport provided in connection with an educational visit

5.3 Residential visits

- Education provided on any visit that takes place during school or college hours
- Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school or college hours if it is part of:
 - The national curriculum
 - A syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the student is being prepared for at the school or college
 - Religious education
- Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school or college accompanying students on a residential visit

6.0 Where charges can be made to parents / carers

Below we set out **what the Foundation can charge parents / carers for.**

6.1 Education

- It is the Foundation's policy NOT to charge for any educational items such as books, instruments or other equipment necessary for use whilst at school or college.

6.2 Optional extras

- It is the Foundation's policy NOT to charge for any 'optional extras' made available by the school or college.

7.0 Voluntary Contributions

There is no obligation, nor will there be any request, for parents or carers to make ANY contribution.

8.0 Activities the Foundation charges for

The Foundation does not charge parents / carers for any activities.

9.0 Activities the Foundation charges for

If the Foundation enters a contract to provide services with another school or college or individual, such as training or selling of services (i.e. therapeutic work), outside of a National Contract with a Local Authority to provide education to a student, a charge will be agreed in advance.

Further information regarding charges and cancellation fees can be found in our training and development programme or by contacting our therapy department.

In some circumstances the Foundation may not charge for items or activities set out in sections 6 and 8 of this policy. This will be at the discretion of the governing board and will depend on the activity in question.

10.0 Monitoring Arrangements

The Executive principal monitors charges and remissions, and ensures these comply with this policy.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the Executive principal.