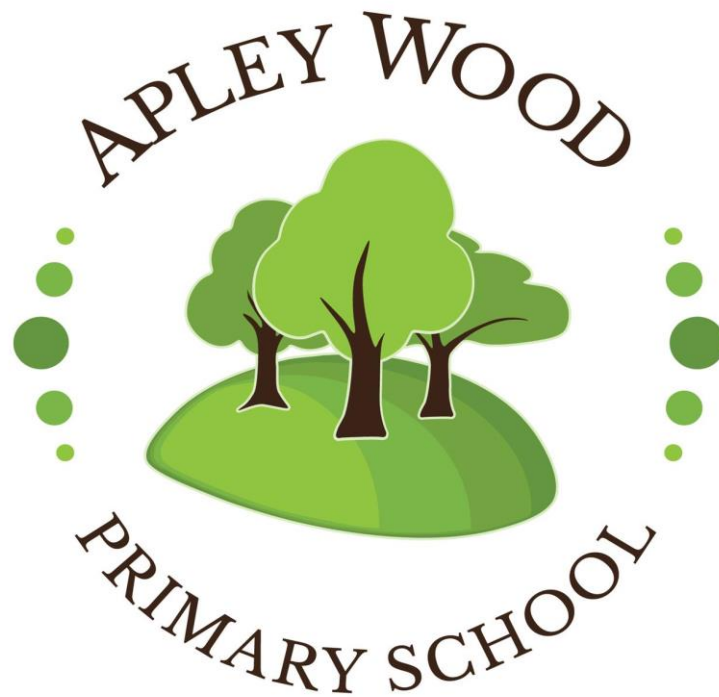


Governing Body of Apley Wood Primary School



Charging and Remissions Policy

Updated: March 2021
Reviewed: January 2022
To be reviewed: January 2024

With a thematic approach to learning at the centre of our work in this school, visits into the local and more distant environments are an essential element of school life.

The invitation to theatre groups to give us performances in our school and visits made to theatres are an essential aspect of our language work.

We must provide for the children of Apley Wood Primary School a rich, broad and balanced curriculum, and indeed under the 1988 Education Act we are charged to do so. This is only realisable if our environmental visits and arrangements for visitors into our school are given a key, integral role.

Residential visits may also be made.

This Charging Policy will reflect these activities.

1. The Education Reform Act, 1988 requires the Governing Body to:- "... determine and keep under review a policy with respect to the provision of, and the classes or descriptions of cases in which they propose to make charges for, any optional extra or board and lodging in respect of which charges are permitted by Section 109 of this Act, ...".
2. The Governing Body have noted that the Education Reform Act allows charges to be made in the following areas:-

Optional Extras	Activities not related to the National Curriculum or to prescribed public examinations or to fulfil duties relating to religious education taking place out of school time.
Individual	Individual instrument tuition not related Instrumental to the National Curriculum Tuition or to prescribed public examinations.
Materials used in	Subject to the parents having agreed in craft subjects advance they wish to own the finished product.
Board and lodgings	At any time (in school time or otherwise) charges subject to full remission to those parents in receipt of Income Support or Family Credit Benefits for residential visits taking place or deemed to take place in 'school time'.
Examination Entry	Public examinations not prescribed in Fees regulations. Prescribed public examinations where the pupil has not been prepared by the school. Resits of prescribed public examinations where no further preparation has been provided by the school.

3. The Education Reform Act does not debar voluntary contributions being made by parents

The Governing Body would wish to try and ensure that the level of visits and activities established at the School continue but emphasise to parents that this can only happen with their full support and that activities will either be substantially reduced or cease altogether if parents are not prepared to contribute voluntarily.

The Governing Body note that parents are not debarred from making voluntary contributions in any situation including those in receipt of Income support and Family Credit contributing towards the costs of board and lodgings if they so wish.

The Governing body also note that there are no restrictions on the level of voluntary contribution that can be made nor are there any restrictions as to the use to which such contributions may be put.

4. The Governing Body notes that the Education Reform prescribes:
- that no charges may be levied for school activities taking place or deemed to take place in school time.
 - that voluntary contributions must be genuinely voluntary.
 - that there is no obligation on parents to contribute and
 - that pupils will not be treated any differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution.

The Governing Body recognises that participation in all trips and visits is voluntary and notwithstanding the charging requirements parents have the right, for whatever other reasons, to choose that their children not participate.

5. The Charging and Remissions Policy for the Apley Wood Primary School will, for the time being, be as follows:-
- (i) The Governors reserve the right to make charges where the law allows and as set out in 2 above.
 - (ii) Individual instrumental tuition able to be accommodated at the wishes of parents will be on the understanding that parents meet the full costs involved.
 - (iii) From time to time it may be possible for the costs of trips and activities to be subsidised either wholly or in part from private school funds. Parents will be so informed when these occasions arise.
 - (iv) The Governing Body notes that the LEA will fund board and lodging remission costs for "in school time" courses at the Shropshire Outdoor Education Centre, Arthog, for those parents in receipt of Income Support or Income based Job Seekers Allowance.

Should the Governing Body choose to hold "in school time" residential visits at some other venue, remission of board and lodging costs will be provided by the school to those who are entitled and who claim.
 - (v) The Governing Body have instructed the head to include in the schools disciplinary code that parents will be asked to meet or contribute towards the costs of damage to or loss of school property arising out of individual pupils' behaviour as long as blame can be established.

6. This policy statement will be kept under review every 2 years.