

Hambleton & Richmondshire Pupil Referral Service



Sunbeck PRS Charging and Remissions Policy

Named personnel with designated responsibility for this policy:

Academic Year	Designated Senior Person	Nominated MC Member (if applicable)	Chair of Management Committee
2023/2024	Alison Keane		Tom Kelly
2024/2025	Sarah Morrison		Paul Sims

Policy Review Dates:

Review Date	Changes Made	By Whom	Date Shared With Staff
February 2024	Links updated, charges updated	S Drwiega	March 2024
March 2025	Most recent version adopted	Sarah Morrison	March 2025

Date Ratified by Management Committee	Review Date
15/04/2024	March 2025

Policy Source:	
North Yorkshire Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Key <input type="checkbox"/> Written by The Sunbeck Centre <input type="checkbox"/>	Veritau <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state) <input type="checkbox"/> Click or tap here to enter text.

Document Status			
Date of Next Review		Responsibility	<i>Management Committee</i>
Success Criteria for review completion		Responsibility	<i>(Chair)</i>
Date of Policy Creation <i>NYCC Adapted - Sept 2023</i> <i>Lettings updated from</i> <i>School Finance Manual</i> <i>Information August 2021</i>	Adapted school written model	Responsibility	<i>Chair of ...</i>
Date of Policy Adoption by Governing Body		Signed	
Method of Communication (e.g Website, Noticeboard, etc)			

This policy takes guidance from the DfE Policy – ‘Charging for School Activities’ and Local Authority guidance on school lettings. Sections 449-462 of the Education Act 1996 set out the law on charging for school activities in schools maintained by local authorities in England. This guidance complements the guidance laid out in section 6.7 of the Governance Handbook.

This Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the School’s Finance Committee and will be adjusted in line with new Government or Local Authority recommendations. It sets out the School’s position on charges, remissions and lettings.

If a school chooses to apply a charge for a particular activity then it should make information available to parents as to how the charge has been calculated as well as details of support for those on low incomes or in receipt of specific benefits.

Activities Schools CANNOT Charge For

The following list of activities cannot be charged for by school governing bodies and local authorities:

- a) an admission application to any state funded school (paragraph 1.9(n) of the School Admission Code 2014 rules out requests for financial contributions as any part of the admissions process);
- b) education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment; sports activities such as swimming lessons and professional coaching; author visits);
- c) education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education;
- d) instrumental or vocal tuition, for pupils learning individually or in groups, unless the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil’s parent;
- e) entry for a prescribed public examination, if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school; and
- f) examination re-sit(s) if the pupil is being prepared for the re-sit(s) at the school.

Activities Schools CAN Charge For

Schools and local authorities can charge for the following:

- a) Any materials, books, instruments, or equipment, where the child's parent wishes him/her to own them, i.e. a charge can be made to cover the cost of materials or ingredients required for design or food technology subjects where parents have indicated in advance that they would like their child to bring home the finished product;
- b) Optional extras (see section below);
- c) Music and vocal tuition, in limited circumstances (see section below);
- d) Certain early years provision; and
- e) Community facilities.

Voluntary Contributions and Responsibilities of Staff

A school can request voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or any school activity.

The Head Teacher or Governing Body should, from the outset, make clear to parents:

- If an activity is reliant upon voluntary contributions and cannot be funded from any other sources;
- That there is no obligation to make a contribution as it is voluntary, not compulsory;
- That the activity will be cancelled if insufficient contributions are received to fund it; and
- The school's policy for allocating places on school visits.

A child should not be excluded from an activity if his/her parents are unwilling or unable to pay and indeed their child should still be given an equal chance to go on the visit. Parents must not be made to feel pressurised into paying as it is a voluntary not compulsory contribution and schools should not send colour coded reminder letters or direct debit / standing order mandates when requesting contributions.

Optional Extras

Charges can be made for providing materials, books, instruments or equipment where an optional extra is being provided. Participation in optional extra activity is a matter of parental choice and a willingness to meet the charges. Parental agreement is a necessary pre-requisite for the provision of an optional extra where charges will be made.

Optional extra charges may be made in the following circumstances:

- Education that is not part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for, or part of religious education is provided outside of school time;
- Examination entry fee(s) if the registered pupil has not been prepared for the examination(s) at the school;
- Transport, other than that required to take the pupil to school or to other premises where the local authority/governing body has arranged for the pupil to be provided with education;
- Board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit; and
- Extended day services offered to pupils (for example breakfast club, after-school clubs, tea and supervised homework sessions).

In 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); and
- The cost, or a 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.

The charge per pupil should not:

- exceed the actual cost of providing the optional extra divided equally by the number of pupils participating;
- include any form of subsidy for other pupils wishing to participate whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge
- include the cost of any alternative provision for other pupils not wishing to participate in the optional extra where a small proportion of the optional extra takes place during school hours; or
- include the costs of supply teachers contracted to cover for teachers who are away from school accompanying pupils on a visit as they are seen to be providing education during school time, not an optional extra.

Music Tuition

Although the law states that, in general, all education provided during school hours must be free, instrumental and vocal music tuition is an exception.

The Charges for Music Tuition (England) Regulations 2007 set out the circumstances in which charges can be made for tuition in playing a musical instrument, including vocal tuition.

Charges may now be made for vocal or instrumental tuition provided either individually or to groups of any size 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 that provides the tuition.

Charges may not be made where the teaching is either an essential part of the national curriculum, or is provided under the first access to the Key Stage 2 Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Programme.

Charges may not be made in respect of a pupil who is looked after by a local authority (within the meaning of section 22(l) of the Children Act 1989).

Transport

Schools cannot charge for:

- a) Transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the LA has a statutory obligation to provide transport;
- b) Transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing body or LA has arranged for pupils to be educated;
- c) Transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he/she has been prepared for that examination at the school; and
- d) Transport provided in connection with an educational visit.

Residential Visits

Schools cannot charge for:

- a) Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours (provided by school);
- b) Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education; and

c) Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit.

Schools can charge for board and lodging but the charge must not exceed the actual cost.

Eligibility for Remission for Residential Visits

Section 200 of the Education Act 2002 outlines the eligibility to entitlement for board and lodging costs for residential visits. When a school informs parents about a forthcoming trip, they should make it clear that parents who can prove that they are in receipt of certain benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging: The current criteria is the same as for Free School Meals;

- 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 you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, may also be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging.

Education Partly During School Hours

Where an activity takes place partly during and partly outside school hours, there is a basis for determining whether it is deemed to take place either inside or outside school hours.

A charge can only be made for the activity outside school hours if it is not part of the National Curriculum, not part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school and not part of religious education.

Non-Residential Activity

If at least 50% of the non-residential activity occurs during school hours then it is deemed to take place during school hours. Travelling time is included in the calculation if the travel itself occurs during school hours. School hours do not include the break in the middle of the day.

Where less than 50% of the time spent on an activity falls during school hours, it is deemed to have taken place outside of school hours.

Example: An excursion to a theatre production involves the pupils leaving school an hour before the end of the school day but the activity does not finish until late in the evening. This will be an activity deemed to have occurred outside of school hours.

Residential Visits

In the case of a residential visit, if the number of school sessions taken up by the visit is equal to or greater than 50% of the number of half days spent on the visit, it is deemed to have taken place during school hours – even if some activities take place late in the evening. Whatever the start and finish times of the school day, Regulations require that the school day is divided into two sessions. A “half day” means any period of 12 hours ending with noon or midnight on any day.

Example 1: Pupils are away from noon Wednesday to 9pm Sunday. This counts as 9 half days including 5 school sessions. The 5 school sessions are more than 50% of the number of half days spent on the visit therefore the visit is deemed to have taken place during school hours.

Example 2: Pupils are away from noon Thursday to 9pm Sunday. This counts as 7 half days including 3 school sessions. The 3 school sessions are less than 50% of the number of half days spent on the visit therefore the visit is deemed to take place outside school hours.

Miscellaneous Charges (other than for students)

Value Added Tax - The Governors are constrained by law to apply value added tax to all transactions where appropriate.

Photocopying Charges

Charges for department photocopying are as follows: **example - change as appropriate**

	A4	A3	A2	A1
B/W Repro	1p	2p		
B/W Self Service	3p	5p		
B/W Lazer	8p	12p		
Colour	25p	35p		
Large Format Matt			£2.50	£3.50
Large Format Gloss			£4.00	£6.00
Laminating	50p	£1.00	£3.00	£5.00
Binding	50p			

per sheet	A4	A3
Coloured Paper	1p	2p
White Card	5p	10p
Coloured Card	5p	
OHP	40p	
Acetate	10p	
Ream of White Paper	£2	£4

Private photocopying charges are (staff & students only):

	4	A3	A2	A1 A
B/W	2p	3p		
B/W Laser	8p	12p		
Colour	25p	35p		
Large Format Matt			£3.00	£4.00
Large Format Gloss			£4.50	£6.50
Laminating	75p	£1.25	£3.50	£5.50
Binding	50p			

per sheet	A4	A3
Coloured Paper	2p	4p
White Card	8p	13p
Coloured Card	10p	
OHP	50p	
Acetate	15p	

External photocopying charges are:

	A4	A3	A2	A1
B/W	3p	5p		
B/W Lazer	8p	12p		
Colour	50p	70p		
Folding/Stapling	£4.00 per 100			
Scanning	£1.00 per sheet+ disc			
Large Format Matt			£3.50	£5.00
Large Format Gloss			£6.00	£8.00
Laminating	95p	£1.60	£4.00	£6.00
Binding (inc. acetate & back)	£1.00			

	A4	A3
Coloured Paper	2p	4p
White Card	8p	13p
Coloured Card	10p	
OHP	50p	
Acetate	15p	
	A4	A3
Ream of White Paper		

Private Telephone Calls and Faxes

Staff and others using a School telephone or the fax machine may do so, with the prior agreement of the Finance Manager or Finance Assistant, at the rate charged by the telephone supplier.

Value Added Tax Regulations

There has been a recent change in the VAT treatment of sporting services supplied by local authority schools and other local authority educational establishments.

A: The sporting services covered includes things like:

- Lettings of sports facilities
- Sports block bookings
- Sports-related education/tuition
- Sports equipment hire

B: At North Yorkshire Council, the new rules are likely to apply to:

- local authority schools
- outdoor education centres

The VAT treatment of such sporting supplies is now non-business (ie 'outside scope') for VAT purposes, therefore if your establishment falls into one of the above categories (B) and you supply the sporting services in (A) above, then you may need to change the VAT treatment of those supplies you make.

There are specific criteria relating to the various sporting services you may provide, and these will determine whether the non-business VAT treatment can be applied. The criteria can be found in Appendix 1 below.

If the sporting services you provide fall within any of the categories described in Appendix 1 (a) to (h), then you will need to start applying the new 'outside scope' VAT treatment with immediate effect.

Appendix 1

Examples of Activities accepted as non-business ('outside scope') for VAT purposes:

- Sports Lettings** – The hire of a sports facility by an individual or club for sports use, including a recurring series of lets, previously covered by the '10 or more lets' rule.
- Lettings of sports facilities to a business** – For instance, aerobics or yoga instructors, five-a-side football league, etc. The non-business treatment will apply provided the business uses the facility for the benefit of individuals taking part in sport.
- Lettings of non-sports facilities for sports use** – For example, a school hall let to an individual or club to take part in a sports activity, such as badminton, table tennis, etc. Such lettings will qualify for the non-business treatment ONLY if the school/LA has set up the room for use as a sports or leisure facility prior to the start of the hire period (see 'Room/space hire' below).
- Long-term leases of sports facilities** – The non-business treatment applies to a lease where what is leased is a LA-maintained and managed facility. However, non-business treatment will not apply to a simple lease of a sports facility where the tenant takes the responsibility for its maintenance and management.
- Letting a park for a sports event** – Although LAs generally run parks under powers provided by other legislation, it is accepted that the hire of a park for a Parkrun, cycle race, etc., is sports use. The non-business treatment may apply ONLY if the LA has set up the space for the specific sports activity prior to the start of the hire period (see 'Room/space hire' below).
- Sports tuition and sports-related education** – For example, swimming lessons, sports coaching courses (including the provision of a sports coach to a third party to run such courses).
- Outdoor pursuits centres** – Where the supply is expressly one of sporting and leisure activities, such as canoeing, climbing, bouldering, etc., with instruction and/or equipment, this is within the scope of the non-business treatment. However, where the supply is clearly one of education, such as classroom-based learning, this is a supply of education that is VAT-Exempt.

h. **Letting of sports goods** - The letting by a LA of appropriate sports equipment in conjunction with the letting of the sports facility to which that equipment relates – for example, badminton rackets, table tennis bats, ice skates, etc. – can be treated as closely related to the provision of the sports services and therefore treated as non-business.

Examples of activities excluded from the non-business ('outside scope') treatment:

- a. **Room/space hire** - Although the legislation covers the provision of premises for sports, leisure and recreational uses, HMRC's view is that where the room is not set up for participation in a sporting or leisure activity – for instance, a club hires a room for a meeting or social event – this remains the hire of a room which will either be VAT-Exempt.
- b. **Sale of sports goods** - The non-business treatment does not apply to the sale of sports goods – for example, shuttlecocks, tennis balls, swimming goggles, etc.