



NORTHAMPTON PRIMARY  
ACADEMY TRUST PARTNERSHIP

# **Headlands Primary School**

*Part of Northampton Primary Academy Trust Partnership*

## **Charging and remissions policy**

**Board approved :** February 2015

**Next review date :** February 2016

## **CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY**

### **1. Principles**

The Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, out of Academy trips, residential and experiences of other environments, can make towards students' all round educational experience and their personal and social development

Northamptonshire Primary Academy Trust (NPAT) is clear, that no child's education should be in anyway compromised by the ability of their parents or carers to pay.

In some cases Pupil Premium may be used to support those pupils who are at risk of a disadvantage experience due their financial circumstance.

### **2. Policy**

The Schools Governing Body is required by law to publish a policy on charging for academy activities. The Education Act 1996 establishes the basic principle that the education provided by any maintained school/academy for its registered pupils should be free of charge. This basic underlying principle requires that there should be no school/academy admission charge and no charge for any related activity which takes place during school/academy time. Exceptions to this general statement are as follows.

Individual tuition in playing a musical instrument may be charged for provided that it is not part of the National Curriculum or part of the syllabus for a prescribed Public Examination.

Where parents have indicated that they wish to have the finished product from a particular lesson e.g. individual craft items, pottery, needlework, cookery, a charge may be made to cover materials.

For all residential visits deemed to be within academy hours, or part of the National Curriculum or part of the Syllabus for the prescribed Public Examination, a charge for board and lodging will be made.

Optional visits or activities occurring outside of academy hours may be charged for in full.

Within the Education Act it is possible for schools/academies to ask for voluntary contributions from parents. The Board of Directors of the Trust has therefore approved the following:

- Voluntary contributions can be invited from parents towards the cost of the academy activities which are related to the life and work of the academy. Such contributions will be genuinely voluntary and no child whose parents feel unable to contribute will be treated differently from the rest.
- Parents not wishing to make a voluntary contribution in whole or part, but wishing their child to be included, must make the fact known directly to the Headteacher, who will treat any such approach in strictest confidence.
- School visits and activities will be planned in advance and, if sought, voluntary contributions will usually be invited through individual letters to parents. The letter, asking for support, will outline the proposed visit, cost, educational value and its relationship to the academy curriculum.
- If insufficient voluntary contributions are received and the trip is considered by the Headteacher or Principal to not be financially viable, then it will be cancelled and any monies received will be returned

Compulsory charges may be made by the academy for:

- Replacement of broken windows or fittings, defaced or damaged text books or any other damage or loss occurring as a result of pupils' bad behaviour. The academy is empowered to recover this loss and resultant costs as a civil debt.
- Unpaid charges legally recoverable will also be recouped, together with resultant costs, as a civil debt.

Any amendments to this policy will be made if and when necessary.

Children whose parents are in receipt of certain 'support' payment may be eligible for further remissions. Please contact the Headteacher for information.

### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The Board of Directors will review this policy at least every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the NPAT Academies.