



Belong... Believe... Achieve...

Islwyn High School

Charging Policy

Reviewed by:

Ratified by Governors: 2nd March 2023

Date to be reviewed: 2nd March 2028

Signed: Mr J Hicks
Headteacher

Mr G Bryce
Chair of Governors

Policy on charging for School Activities

Purpose of policy

The purpose of this policy is to set out what charges can and cannot be made for activities in Islwyn High School. The policy has been drawn up in accordance with Sections 449-462 of The Education Act 1996 which sets out the law regarding what charges can and cannot be made for activities in schools maintained by local authorities.

Circumstances where no charge is made

No charges will be made for:

Education in School

- Education provided wholly or mainly during school hours.
- Admission to school for children of compulsory schoolage.
- Activities which are part of the National Curriculum, or are part of a prescribed examination syllabus, or part of Religious Education.
- The supply of any materials, books and instruments or other equipment.

Transport

- Transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport.
- Transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing body or local authority has arranged for pupils to be educated.
- Transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he/she has been prepared for that examination at the school.
- Transport provided in connection with an educational visit which is part of the National Curriculum.

Residential Visits

- Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours.
- 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.
- Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit.

Examination Fees

- Entry for a prescribed public examination if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school for the first time.

Circumstances where the School may Charge Parents

Optional Extras

Charges may be made for other activities known as 'optional extras'. Where an optional extra is being provided, a charge may be made for providing materials, books, instruments, or equipment as follows:

Education

- Activities which take place mainly or wholly out of school time if they are not part of the National Curriculum, not part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupils are being prepared for at the school and not part of statutory religious education.
- Materials used in practical subjects and project assignments provided parents have agreed in advance that they or the pupil wish to keep the finished product e.g. ingredients or materials.

Music Tuition

- All musical instrument tuition provided to individual pupils or to a group of not more than four pupils

Transport

- Transport that is not required to take the pupil to school or to other premises where the arrangements have been made by the school for the pupil to be provided with education.

Examination Fees

- The examination is on the school's examination list but the pupil was not prepared for it at the school.
- The examination is not on the school's examination list but the school arranges for the pupil to take it.
- A pupil fails, without good reason, to complete the requirements of any public examination where the governing body or LA originally paid or agreed to pay the entry fee.
- The school reserves the right to charge for an examination re-sit if it deems it appropriate for any reason.

Board and Lodgings

- The cost of board and lodging for residential trips, even when taking place largely during school time.

Voluntary Contributions

Although schools cannot charge for school time activities, voluntary contributions may be sought from parents for activities which supplement the normal school curriculum.

Requests to parents for voluntary contributions will state that:

- there is no legal obligation to make a voluntary contribution;
- pupils will not be excluded through parents' inability or unwillingness to pay
- pupils of parents who cannot contribute will not be treated any differently; and
- where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible and there is no way to make up the shortfall, the activity will be cancelled.

Requests made for voluntary contributions made in respect of individual pupils must not include any element of subsidy for any other pupils wishing to participate in the activity whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge.

Remissions

The school can, at its discretion, consider using the Pupil Deprivation Grant to support parents who claim free school meals for their children.

Supplementary Information

Uniform, P.E. Kit, Calculators, Pens etc. Aprons

Parents will be invited to equip their child with items of personal equipment intended to be used solely by their child.

Breakages and Damage

Where a pupil's behaviour results in damage to school property or equipment, parents may be asked to pay for the necessary repair or replacement. Each incident should be dealt with on its own merit and at the school's discretion.