

## Policy for Charging and Remissions

### Introduction

It is the policy of Longwill School to follow the guidance given by the Local Authority in respect of the way we charge parents. This is with regard to the section **12.2 CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES EDUCATION ACT 1996 from the STATEMENT OF POLICY AND GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOLS.**

To operate legally, the following applies to all charging.

- For each trip we will invite parents to make voluntary contributions to the school's activities in order to enhance what is otherwise provided e.g. school visits or journeys (see below).
- Parents will only be charged for activities (clubs, sports etc) that happen outside school hours when these activities are not a necessary part of the National Curriculum or that form part of the school's basic curriculum for religious education. We will not make any charge for activities that are an essential part of the school life.
- We will not charge for any activity undertaken within normal school hours.

### RESIDENTIAL VISITS

At Longwill School, we have the benefit of the Clara Martineau fund which covers all, or most, of the costs of our annual residential trips. On the rare occasions that it does not cover the amount required, the normal regulations will be adhered to according to the LA guidance. (attached)

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Working with Deaf pupils, it is very much part of the Curriculum and Teaching and learning policies of school to engage in direct experience. School funds take into account of this need and accordingly, fund most of the costs of all the extra trips we make, which are far higher than mainstream schools.

In seeking voluntary contributions for school activities we will make it clear to parents that:

- there is no obligation to contribute;
- that pupils, will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made a contribution.

In consequence we will:

- indicate the level of contribution required for the activity to take place;
- consider that such contribution may include, for example, an element to cover the participation by pupils from low-income families or the cost of travel for accompanying teachers;
- indicate that the activity may not take place if parents are reluctant to support it.

## **REMISSIONS**

We will request a small and reasonable contribution to trips and residential visits, in accordance with the LA guidance. This regards any trip that is:

- during school hours;
- involving delivery of the national curriculum
- an optional extra

Full descriptions of entitlements can be found on the following website.

[www.teachernet.gov.uk/freemealsandtrips](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/freemealsandtrips)

Babs Day  
September 2013

Ratified at Full Governors meeting 11-9-13