

Charging Policy

This policy is applicable to: South Hunsley School and South Hunsley Sixth Form College

Intended audience: Parents, Students, Staff

POLICY MANAGEMENT

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Managed by: Helen Dunn		Version: 2
Position: Head of Communications and Corporate Services		Status: Published

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1. Aims

In conformity with the requirements of the Education Reform Act 1988, it is the policy of the Governing Body:

- To make a broad programme of activities and trips accessible to as many students as possible
- To establish and maintain a fair and coherent system of charges within the constraints of the school budget, seeking to ensure that no child should have their access to the curriculum limited by charges.

The Governing Body also recognises that there is a clear distinction in charging between Curriculum and Non Curriculum activities.

2. Curriculum Activities

Curriculum trips and activities

To ensure that no charge is levied for any activities which form a part of a prescribed examination syllabus, or are in fulfilment of National Curriculum requirements.

In a number of subjects, notably Art & Mathematics, students are expected to provide some specialist stationery and/or equipment and in Modern Foreign Languages, students are advised that possessing a copy of the relevant dictionary would be advantageous to their private study and homework.

To levy a charge for all board and lodging costs on residential visits, except where pupils are entitled to statutory remission (see section on **Statutory Remission**).

Residential Trips – Board and Lodgings

Voluntary contributions may be requested for trips and activities which take place mainly within school hours. No child may be excluded because of inability to pay but the school is entitled to cancel the trip if the level of contributions does not meet its budgetary requirements. Students who are entitled to free school meals may pick up a packed lunch from the school dining rooms before setting out on the trip.

The cost of trips and visits that take place mainly out of school hours are to be met by students and parents or carers, and this includes board, lodging and travel costs, subject to statutory exceptions. The governors will assist with charges for board and lodging for students whose parents are in receipt of income support or family credit where the activity takes place in school hours, or if it is out of hours but is

- on the syllabus of a prescribed examination
- a National Curriculum requirement
- To fulfil statutory duties relating to religious education

Use of the school minibus for purposes other than school business is strictly prohibited due to insurance restrictions. Any insurance costs will be included in charges for trips and activities.

General Lesson Costs

To levy a charge in respect practical subjects, for full or partial cost of materials and ingredients if parents have indicated in advance that they wish to own the finished product. E.g. in practical subjects such as Design, Food and Textiles Technology.

Library Charges

To levy a charge for overdue library books. At present this is 2p per book per day up to a max of 50p. Audiobooks, CD's and DVD's are charged at 2p per day up to a max of £1, Pro Desk Top is charged at 2p per day up to a max £1 (charges made to borrower or department). Weekends and School holidays are not chargeable. Absences due to illness are not charged for but borrowers must inform library staff if this is the case. Missing books will be charged in full.

Examination Fees

To meet the cost of examination entries for all subjects taught in school for students at KS3 and KS4 who have fulfilled the entry criteria. Where the entry criteria for subjects have not been satisfied e.g. attendance, completion of coursework and minimum level of attainment, candidates who still wish to be entered will be required to pay the entry fees, which will be returnable on the achievement of a grade in those subjects. Students who have been entered for any examination and who fail to attend for no good reason will be required to pay the fee.

GCSE Resits

- Students' examination fees for the first presentation of all modules are paid for by the school
- Where it is the school's decision that a student resits a module this cost too will be borne by the school.
- If a student opts to resit against the advice of the school he/she will be charged for the resit.

Post-16 Resits

The cost of entry for first examinations in any module at KS5 will be met by the school. However, if students choose to resit any module, they must pay the cost of the resit unless there has been an error on the part of the school which has led to a grade which is significantly less than predicted.

Books and Equipment

To levy a small charge for lost exercise books or damaged equipment. Text books which are issued to students and may be taken home are the responsibility of students who will be charged for any loss or damage.

Music Tuition

To require parents/carers to make a contribution of £50 per term per instrument towards the cost of instrumental tuition by teachers of the Schools' Music Service. The cost of receiving music tuition lessons is heavily subsidised by South Hunsley School and payment must be received in advance of the start of each term.

A full terms notice is required to cancel music tuition lessons, for example if your child wants to end lessons in the summer term then you must notify South Hunsley School at the beginning of the spring term otherwise you will be charged for the full summer term.

Freedom of Information

Information published on our website is free, although you may incur costs from your internet service provider. If you do not have internet access, you can access our website using a local library or an internet café. Single copies of information covered by this publication are provided free unless stated otherwise in section 6 of South Hunsley School's Freedom of Information Act Publication Scheme. If your request means that we have to do a lot of photocopying or printing, or pay a large postage charge, or is for a priced item such as some printed publications or videos we will let you know the cost before fulfilling your request. Where there is a charge this will be indicated by a £ sign in the description box. All charges will be fair and reasonable.

Private Copying

The school makes charges for personal photocopying and printing.

A4 white single sided	5p	A4 coloured single sided	25p
A4 white double sided	7p	A4 coloured double sided	35p
A3 white single sided	10p	A3 coloured single sided	50p
A3 white double sided	14p	A3 coloured double sided	70p

The school makes additional charges for different paper types.

A4 coloured paper	2p	OHP's	40p
A4 coloured card	4p	Binding	40p
Laminating – per sheet	20p		

These costs all include VAT at the current rate. Income raised from this is used to reimburse the relevant expenditure account

3. Non-Curricular Activities

To levy a charge as an optional extra for trips which are not part of the National Curriculum, statutory religious education or in preparation for a prescribed public examination. The school reserves the right to cancel the trip if there are insufficient pupils to make the trip viable. In these circumstances a full refund will be given. Any insurance costs will be included in the charges for the trips and activities. If a student withdraws from a trip and a replacement cannot be found, the deposit may not be refundable.

Payment plans can be put into place to support parents who may find payment in a lump sum difficult and who are not in receipt of any statutory contributions

School Property

To charge parents for damages to or loss of school property caused wilfully or neglectfully by their children. Damage to school property will be charged as follows;

No charge made for accidental damage

50% of cost of repair or replacement will be charged where a student has caused damage to school property in an accident caused by a transgression against school rules.

100% of cost of repair or replacement will be charged where the damage to school property is wilful and deliberate.

Private Lettings

To charge for private lettings using the scale of charges as set out for directed community use of school premises by the Local Authority, to include VAT where appropriate. Discretion can be allowed at the Field Teachers/Finance Manager's discretion. Charges for Extended Services are detailed in the Extended Services Charging Policy.

4. Statutory Remission

Statutory remission is given to those parents who are in receipt of either:-

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Support under Part vi of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (providing that they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed the yearly Inland Revenue assessed threshold - £15,910 up to 31 March 2014 and £16,010 from 1 April 2014).
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

In cases where charges are to be levied, parents will be advised in advance and any monies collected prior to the activity. Requests for statutory remission should be made to the Head of School and complete confidence will be observed in every case.

The Charging and Remissions Policy will be reviewed at regular intervals and charges may be adjusted as a result of that review.