

Policy on Charging Principles

We are committed to a free school education for all.

We Aim To:

- Ensure that education in school is free.
- Ensure that activities offered wholly or mainly during normal school teaching time should be available to all students regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
- Ensure that there is no statutory requirement to charge for any form of education but the school has the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours.
- Ensure that the school has the right to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of activities organised by the school, whether during or outside school hours.

PRACTICES

With the aforementioned aims in mind, it is the Policy of Ruskin Community High School :

- To continue to request voluntary contributions from parents towards activities organised by the school during school hours.
- If insufficient voluntary contributions are not forthcoming for an activity and insufficient subsidies are available, then that activity will be cancelled.
- Optional trips wholly or mainly outside school hours will be charged at full cost. These visits will not proceed where full costs are not met by all those who wish to partake in the activity.
- Board/lodging on residential trips to the Conway Centre will not be charged to those parents in receipt of Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Income Support, Child Tax Credit (provided their annual income is below an amount determined annually in April), Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit. These families will be expected to pay a contribution towards travel costs. School records of current students entitled to Free School Meals acts as a source of confirmation of entitlement; approval is ascertained by the nominated member of the Leadership Group.
- The school may invite voluntary contributions towards the cost of ingredients, materials and equipment where parents have expressed the wish to have the finished product.
- The school may make charges for breakages and damage to property including window breakage and cost for graffiti removal.
- **Individual Instrumental Tuition**
Ruskin will request contribution towards individual instrumental tuition.
- **Remissions**
The Board of Governors may wish to remit in full or in part the cost of other activities for particular groups of parents, for example, in the case of family hardship. When arranging a chargeable activity such parents will be invited in confidence for the remission of charges in full or in part. Authorisation for such remission will be made by the Head Teacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors.