



# **Backworth Park Primary School**

## **Charging and Remissions Policy**

### **September 2024**

## BACKWORTH PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

### **Purpose of Policy**

This policy complies with the requirements of the Education Act 1996. Where 'parent' is referred to this will include adults with responsibility for the child.

We believe that all our pupils should have, where possible, an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities and visits (curricular and extra-curricular) independent of their parents' financial means. This charging and remissions policy describes how we will do our best to ensure a good range of visits and activities is offered at the same time, try to minimise the financial barriers which may prevent some pupils taking full advantage of the opportunities. However some activities have an associated cost and cannot be provided unless voluntary contributions are received or parents are charged for the cost.

The Education provided by any maintained school must be free and this includes materials, equipment and any transport that is needed to take pupils to the activity such as to the local swimming pool for swimming lessons. Under the charging provisions of the education Act 1996, governing bodies of maintained schools may choose to charge for certain defined activities, but can only do this if they have first drawn up a statement of their charging and remissions policy.

Backworth Park Primary School endeavours to offer a broad, balanced curriculum to all pupils. In order to deliver the curriculum and extend opportunities for the pupils extra curricular activities are offered.

Parents may volunteer to pay for any educational activity. The school may request voluntary contributions for any visits/activities both inside and outside school time. However, NO student will be excluded from the activity for not having paid the contribution. The Headteacher and Governing Body may ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of:

- any activity which takes place during school hours
- school equipment
- school funds generally

Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and there is no way to make up the shortfall, then regrettably the activity may be cancelled.

The school offers most extra curricular activities free of charge but in some instances e.g. Judo, pupils make payment to take part in the programme.

Wherever possible school pays for or subsidises extra curricular activities e.g. transport to sporting activities.

Additional instrumental music lessons incur a charge to cover the cost of a peripatetic teacher and equipment use.

Residential trips for e.g. to High Borran are paid for by parents. To support families we offer an opportunity to pay in instalments. Extra subsidies for excursions etc are made by school where necessary.

In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged pupils, the governing body has agreed that, where possible, some activities and visits where charges can legally be made will be offered at no charge or a reduced charge to parents in particular circumstances. Please enquire at the school office for more information.

The Governing Body recognises its responsibility to ensure that the offer of activities and educational visits does not place an unnecessary burden on family finances. To this end we will try to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Where possible we will publish a list of visits (and their approximate cost) at the beginning of the school term so that parents can plan ahead.
- We have established a system for parents to pay in instalments.
- When an opportunity for a trip arises at short notice it will be possible to arrange to pay by instalments beyond the date of the trip.

### **Extended Hours Provision**

Backworth Park Primary School offers the following extended hours provision for parents:

Breakfast Club - the current fees are:

- £2.00 per session per child

It has always been the schools intention to offer the best opportunities to all pupils and endeavour to support a wide range of learning opportunities through our budget allocation.