



Policy: Charging for School's Activities Policy

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this policy is to set out what charges can and cannot be made for activities in St Teilo's Church in Wales 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.

1.2 Basic Principles

As a basic principle, education is free, and charges are not made for most aspects of school life. However, the school is involved in a large number of extra-curricular activities, trips, visits and expeditions. Those taking place during the school day are normally either free or heavily subsidised; where the cost exceeds that which the school can afford to fund centrally, then voluntary contributions are sought to cover the additional costs. No student is excluded from participation in any activity as a result of inability to pay. However, if sufficient numbers of students do not contribute, then the activity may not be able to proceed.

2. CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE SCHOOL MAY CHARGE PARENTS

2.1 Amenities fund

Parents may be asked to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of general school amenities and equipment that are to the benefit of the school and fall outside normal budgetary expenditure. The suggested amount is £5 per year, with a suggestion that parents pay £25.00 as a one-off payment when the child enters school.

It must be emphasised that this is a voluntary contribution, and where parents are unable or unwilling to contribute, their child will not be discriminated against.

2.2 Residential Trips

The school will charge for the cost of board and lodging during residential school trips: this cost will not exceed the actual cost of the provision.

Where the trip takes place wholly, or mainly, during school hours, children whose parents are in receipt of the following support payments will, in addition to having a free school lunch entitlement, also be entitled to the remission of these charges:

- Income support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- Child Tax Credit provided the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income does not exceed £16,040
- Guaranteed State Pension Credit

A similar entitlement applies where the trip takes place outside of school hours but it is necessary as part of the national curriculum, forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed examination that the school is preparing the student to sit, or the syllabus for religious education.

2.3 Use and Hire of the School Minibuses or Car

It should be noted that school vehicles are not for hire or borrowing at all.

2.4 Instrumental Music Lessons

The school subsidises the full cost of all instrumental lessons; however, a charge will be made for part of the cost of these lessons. The charges will be payable each term, though parents may opt to pay for a complete year if they so wish.

2.5 Entry fees for examinations

Charges may be made where

- The examination is on the set list, but the pupil was not prepared for it at the school.
- The examination is not on the set 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 originally paid or agreed to pay the entry fee.

2.6 Breakages and Damage

Where a student'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 schools discretion.

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

Parents are asked to equip their child with items of personal equipment intended to be used solely by their child. This includes 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.

3. FROM PROSPECTUSES

3.1 From School Prospectus: Policy on Charging

The school is involved in a large number of trips and expeditions. Those taking place during the school day are usually heavily subsidised, with voluntary contributions sought in order to cover the cost of this type of visit. No child will be excluded from any activity as a result of non-payment. However, if sufficient numbers of students do not contribute, then the activity will not proceed.

3.2 From 6th form Prospectus: Policy on Charging

The school offers Sixth Formers opportunities to resit GCSEs in English, Maths and Science to improve their academic profile in preparation for work, training and university applications.

However, to qualify for an entry, it is the Student's responsibility to ensure that they

- register by the date set,
- attend all classes,
- complete all projects/work set
- pay the cost of the examination at the time of entry

Resit examinations are taken at different times of the year:

	<i>Original Grade</i>	<i>Month of Resit</i>
ENGLISH	D in Higher Tier All other grades/tiers	November June
MATHS	D in Higher or Intermediate Tier All other grades/tiers	November June
SCIENCE	All grades/modules	January or June

All students would need to register their intention to resit these examinations with the designated staff by the end of the second week of the September term.

Attendance at lessons is compulsory.

Final entry/Registration for any resit examinations will be decided by the relevant Heads of Department in liaison with the sixth Form Year Tutor and the Director of Sixth Form Studies.

It is the policy of the school that unless there are exceptional circumstances (see below), that examination fees for re-takes will not be paid by the school. We aim to ensure that when students are entered for examinations, all reasonable efforts have been taken to ensure that each is able to achieve an appropriate grade. Where it is felt that a student may not be able to achieve a substantially improved grade, the parents will have been informed in advance and entry may not have been recommended.

Circumstances under which the school may pay for re-takes are those in which the student is disadvantaged through no fault of their own, e.g. where a teacher has been absent for an extended period and it has not been possible to provide suitable consistent cover. (This does not include home problems which may have affected the student's ability to work.) The school retains the right to offer financial assistance in case of genuine hardship where appropriate.