



St. Luke's CEVA Primary School

Charging & Remissions Policy

Adopted: Summer 2023

Review date: Summer 2024

Aspiring to be just and kind

Walking humbly with God

Growing with every opportunity

At St. Luke's we aim to:

Develop an active culture of justice and kindness, where everyone (regardless of background) is treated with dignity, respect and warmth. Embed a positive approach to behaviour management, which has restorative justice at its core and focuses on respect, forgiveness, trust and restoration.

Inspire the pupils to make ethical choices and become agents for change both within their own context and further afield.

Provide an environment where everyone can flourish and have a life enhancing encounter with the Christian faith and Jesus Christ.

Instil hearts of compassion which lead to the service of others both within our own context and further afield.

Provide an excellent, broad-based curriculum that inspires enthusiasm, energy and dedication as pupils fully engage with learning

Provide pupils with a variety of opportunities, including sporting, musical, artistic, technological and cultural activities that facilitate spiritual, moral, social and cultural and growth

Encourage pupils to grow in the in the 'fruits of the spirit' (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control)

Develop a growth mindset, resilience and good mental health and well-being.

1. Admissions

There is no charge for admissions.

2. School meals

There is no charge for children's school meals as the London Borough of Newham provides a free school meal for all primary children.

3. Activities that take place during school hours (this does not include the break in the middle of the school day)

There is no charge for activities during school hours with the exception of music tuition (section 8).

There is no charge for transport during school hours to school-organised activities.

There maybe a charge for:

- Homework books and materials that the parent wishes the child to keep (the cost will be made clear to the parents before charge)
- optional extras (section 4)
- Individual or small group music or vocal tuition (LBN charge for these unless grants used).

4. Activities that take place outside of school hours (non-residential)

There is no charge for activities that take place outside of school hours when they are:

- part of the set curriculum, *including sports matches against other schools*

Optional extras

The school may charge for optional extras. Optional extras are:

- education provided outside of school time that is not:
 - a) part of the National Curriculum e.g. Theatre trips
 - b) part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school
 - c) part of religious education
- transport that is not taking the pupil to school or to other premises where the local authority or governing body has arranged for the pupil to be provided with education.
- board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit.

■ The cost of optional extras

The headteacher will decide when it is necessary to charge for optional activities, *and the levels of charge will be set by the headteacher on the recommendation of the finance committee. The charges, when determined, will be published on the school's website and appended to this policy.*

Any charge made in respect of individual pupils will not exceed the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally by the number of pupils participating. In no circumstances

will there be an element of subsidy required for any pupils wishing to participate in the activity whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge (section 11).

When calculating the cost of optional extras an amount may be included in relation to:

- any materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in connection with the optional extra
- non-teaching staff
- teaching staff engaged under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra, including supply teachers engaged specifically to provide the optional extra
- the cost, or a proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, where the tuition is an optional extra.

Participation in any optional extra activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to pay the charges. The school will need to have the agreement of parents before organising the provision of an optional extra where charges will be made.

6. Activities that take place *partly* during school hours either on or off site

Where the majority of a non-residential activity takes place during school hours the charging of the activity will be the same as is outlined in section 3.

Travelling time is included in time spent on activity.

In cases where the majority of a non-residential activity takes place outside of school hours the charge cannot include the cost of alternative provision for those pupils who do not wish to participate. So no charge can be made for supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a visit.

In this case the charging of the activity will be the same as is outlined in section 5.

7. Residential activities

Our school will not charge for:

- education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours
- education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education
- supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit
- travel costs where the residential activity is classed as being within school hours
- residential activities that take place during school hours.

Our school will charge for:

Board and lodging

When any visit has been organised by the school where there may be a cost for board and lodging, parents will be informed of this before the visit takes place. *We will charge anything up to the full cost of board and lodging on residential visits, whether it is classified as taking place during school hours or not.* The charge will not exceed the actual cost. Parents who can prove they are in receipt of certain benefits may be exempt from paying this cost (see section 10 for more guidance on remissions).

Travel

Travel charges may apply when the residential activity takes place outside of school hours. The amount charged will be calculated to cover the unit cost per pupil. These charges may not apply to those pupils entitled to remissions, but no other pupils will be charged extra to cover those costs.

Activities

The school may charge for residential activities that fall outside of school hours (see section 4).

8. Music tuition within school hours

St. Luke's follows government legislation that states that all education provided during school hours must be free; however, individual or small group music lessons are an exception to this rule. Charges will be made by Newham Music Service and the school will pay a part of this charge.

The school will not charge if the music tuition is part of the National Curriculum or public examination syllabus being followed by the student. *This includes instruments, music books and exam fees.*

St. Luke's is dedicated to ensuring equal opportunities for all pupils including access to specialised music tuition, therefore charges made for music tuition within school hours will be remitted for pupils on Free School Meals or those deemed to be from a vulnerable situation not covered by FSM.

There are no charges for children in care. This includes instruments, music books and exam fees.

9. Extended services

St. Luke's is dedicated to providing a well-rounded and extensive education for our students which includes a wide range of extra-curricular activities (extended services). Extended services enable our school to provide:

- high-quality learning opportunities either side of the school day
- ways of intervening early when children are at risk of poor outcomes, *e.g. by providing access to study support, parenting support or to more specialist services (such as health, social care or special educational needs services)*
- ways of increasing pupil engagement
- ways of improving outcomes and narrowing gaps in outcomes between different groups of pupils.

Breakfast Club

Is charged at £3 per day and is open to children from Reception to Year 6 – this charge covers the cost of the three staff employed to run it and any resources – club runs from 0730-0830

After School Club

Is charged at £3 per hour and runs from 3.30-5 (you can have just a 1 hour option) and consists of a mix of external sports providers (Sports, Drama etc.) and clubs run by school staff.

- **The total charge will not exceed the cost of providing the activity and no parent will be asked to subsidise others.**

10. Loss or damage to property and breakages

Where school property has been wilfully or recklessly damaged by a student *or parent* the school may charge those responsible for some or all of the cost of repair or replacement.

Where property belonging to a third party has been damaged by a pupil, and the school has been charged, the school may charge some or all of the cost to those responsible.

Whether or not these charges will be made will be decided by the headteacher and dependent on the situation.

11. Remissions and concessions

The school will give consideration to the remission of charges to parents or carers who receive Pupil Premium Grant and where possible to those with no recourse to public funds. Parents who are eligible for the remission of charges will be dealt with confidentially.

The headteacher and chair of governors will authorise the remission of charges.

The school may choose to subsidise part or all of the payment of some charges for certain activities and pupils, and this will be determined by the governing body and headteacher.

In the event of a refund being requested by a parent – the preferred method is by bank transfer as the school does not keep cash onsite.

12. Voluntary contributions

The *Governors* may ask for voluntary contributions to the school for general funds and/or to fund activities that will enrich our pupils' education.

In any case where an activity cannot be afforded without voluntary funding, this will be made clear to the parents by the school. If the activity is cancelled all monies paid will be returned to parents. There is no obligation for a parent or carer to make any contribution and the school will in no way pressure parents to make a contribution.

13. Inability or unwillingness to pay

St. Luke's is committed to ensuring fair access and treatment of all pupils, and this means ensuring that no child is excluded from an activity because the parents or carers of that child are unwilling or unable to pay. If there is insufficient funding for an activity, then it will be cancelled.

The identity of the child or parents of the child who did not want to make the payment, or could not make the payment, will not be disclosed under any circumstances.

Signed by:

_____	The chair of governors	Date:
_____	Headteacher	Date:
_____	School office manager	Date:

This policy will be reviewed *by Gov. body committee June 2024*