



# **R.E.A.L. Education Limited**

## **Charging and remissions Policy**

**(R.E.A.L. Education Ltd.)**  
**(R.E.A.L. Independent Schools, Ilkeston)**  
**(R.E.A.L. Independent Schools, Blidworth)**  
**(R.E.A.L. Independent Schools, Hinckley)**  
**(R.E.A.L. Alternative Provision Schools)**

**Date: Amended on 05.12.2020**

**Review Date: 1.12.2021**

### **Revision History:**

Revision history:

18/10/2015: Policy created.



15/03/2016 Policy updated to include introduction and the criteria where parents/carers may be eligible for support and assistance for chargeable activities.

08.06.2018 No amendments made. Full review to take place before the end of August 2019

01/08/2019 Minor amendments made to wording of section 1 and to the potential benefits system information. Also added in a sentence regarding RFT applications.

30.7.2020 - Added in definitions and monitoring sections. Also the word voluntary in section 3 paragraph 2 and additions to section 3 paragraph 7.

05/12/2020 - Added the names of all 4 schools

## 1. Definitions

**Charge:** a fee payable for specifically defined activities

**Remission:** the cancellation of a charge which would normally be payable

## 2. Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the national curriculum.

## 3. Charging statement

The Leadership team affirms that there will be no charge for activities which form part of the curriculum or form part of the course for specified examinations. However, the Leadership team recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including visits and residential experiences can make towards pupils' personal and social education.



The Leadership team aims to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils of the school and as additional optional activities. The Leadership team will always look to utilise the Pupil Premium funding, where possible, to reduce any charges however, in certain circumstances a voluntary charge may be requested to help towards the cost of expensive trips/activities that may otherwise not be accessible, for example;

- a. The cost of activities deemed to be optional extras taking place outside school hours or the local area. Such activities might include visits to the theatre, visits to museums, etc.
- b. The cost of materials, ingredients and equipment (or the provision of them by parents) for certain subjects, for example Food Technology.
- c. The cost of entering a pupil for an examination which is not prescribed by the DFE, or for the retaking of an examination for which the school has not prepared the pupil, or for entering a pupil for a prescribed examination for which the pupil has not been prepared by the school, or where the Governors, on the advice of the Headteacher, decide the pupil should not be entered.
- d. Where the school suffers damage or school property is damaged or lost, the Leadership team reserves the right to recover the full or part cost of making good the damage or loss from the parents of pupils. This right may be exercised whether the damage or loss was caused by deliberate vandalism or by negligence.

The Leadership team does not wish any pupil to be denied educational opportunity because of lack of funds. There is no obligation for parents/carers to make any contribution, and no child will be excluded from an activity if their parents are unwilling or unable to pay. The Leadership team will consider the remit of all or part of the charges for any activities deemed appropriate as part of an extended curriculum. In some circumstances, Learning Managers/Senior Leaders will be able to apply to the R.E.A.L. Foundation trust for funding that enables learners to access visits that enhance the curriculum. NB If the school is unable to raise enough funds for an activity or visit then it will be cancelled.

### 3. Remissions Policy



Those parents/carers in receipt of one or possibly more of the credits below may be offered assistance in paying for the activity or a longer period of instalments will be made available to enable their child to access the activity.

- Income support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.
- Any other circumstances deemed reasonable by the governing body or headteacher

## 4. Monitoring arrangements

The Head of Personal Development and the R.E.A.L. finance team monitor charges and remissions, and ensure these comply with this policy.

This policy will be reviewed by The Head of Personal Development every year.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the Head of schools and at least one member of the Governing body.

