

## Shaftesbury Primary School

### CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

#### Aims

The Provisions of the DES Circular 2/89 Education Reform Act 1989: Charges for School Activities.

These maintain the right to free school education and establish that activities offered wholly or mainly during the normal teaching time should be available to all pupils regardless of their parents guardians ability or willingness to help meet the cost. Provision is also made for the discretion to charge for optional activities wholly or mainly outside school hours, and the right to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of any activity organised by the school whether, during or outside school hours.

The law also says that schools must have a remissions policy which must include the circumstances in which charges will be remitted in whole or in part. (The parts of the policy to which the remittance regulations apply are marked thus\*\*).

Any charge must not exceed the cost of the activity. This means in practice, the following:

#### Day Visits

Charges for day visits must be voluntary and parents must be made aware of the fact. No child should be omitted because of insufficient funds but it must be understood that these activities will not take place if insufficient voluntary contributions are forthcoming. Any charge made must not exceed the price of the activity. Any adult cost must be met by school funds.

#### Study Support Activities (Taking place off-site)

These take place outside school hours (lunch time or after school) and are optional extras for which parents choose to allow their children to take part in, they must agree in advance to meet any charges.

#### Residential Journeys

##### **(In School Time)**

Charges may be made for transport and board and lodging on a voluntary basis.

\*\* [ERA 110 3b] Parents who are in receipt of income support or family credit will receive full remission of charges.

##### **(Out of School Time)**

Parents may be charged for transport board and lodging on residential visits as well as the full costs when a visit is deemed as an "optional extra". An optional extra will fall mainly or wholly outside school hours; is not part of the National Curriculum; not part of a syllabus towards a prescribed Public Examination and not in scope of the statutory requirements relating to religious education. However, parents must agree to pay in advance.

\*\* We must remit 60% of board and lodgings [ERA 100 2b2].