



RAVENSCLIFFE
HIGH SCHOOL & SPORTS COLLEGE

Charging and Remissions policy

Reviewed by	Gareth Hunter
Date approved	21/10/2025
Date for review	20/10/2026
Signed by Chair of sub committee	Kate Woods
Signed by Acting Headteacher	Jo Hague
Signed by chair of Governors (statutory policies only)	Jill Grant/Brendan Heneghan

1. Scope

The School recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including trips, clubs and residential experiences can make towards pupils' education. We aim to promote and provide such activities as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils of the school and as additional optional activities.

We believe that all our pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities and visits (curricular and extra-curricular) independent of their parents'/carers' financial means. This policy describes how we will do our best to ensure a good range of visits and activities is offered and, at the same time, try to minimise the financial barriers which may prevent some pupils taking full advantage of the opportunities.

2. Roles and responsibilities of the Headteacher and Governors

The Headteacher and Governors will ensure that the following applies:

All statutory education during school hours is free. Ravenscliffe High School will not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of extra individual or group music tuition that may be charged by outside agencies.

3. Voluntary Contributions

(i) When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of students, Ravenscliffe High School will invite parents and carers to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary, but if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we would be forced to consider the cancellation of a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

(ii.) If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is genuinely unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. In circumstances of genuine need, the school may pay some additional costs in order to support the visit. The school's budget is a finite one, so any money used for subsidy in this respect must be taken from other areas of planned spending within the budget.

4. Residential Visits

If the school organises a residential visit, parents and carers will be asked to contribute towards the costs of these events if they wish their son or daughter to attend. Every endeavour will be made to reduce the parent/carer contribution required towards these activities.

However, as these visits are optional, where a family is unable or unwilling to meet the contribution required, occasions may arise where students may not be able to attend the residential. The School's delegated budget cannot be used to subsidise such events.

5. After School Clubs

The school organises a range of after school clubs which take place during term time. These clubs are to support working families with child care and also offer additional enrichment and education opportunities outside the national curriculum. Charges for the clubs vary, depending on the level of staffing required, and as such costs are reviewed on a termly basis.

6. Families qualifying for remission or help with charges

In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged pupils, the governing body has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can legally be made may be offered at no charge or a reduced charge to parents/carers in particular circumstances. Criteria which may qualify for remission are given below. This is not an exhaustive list, and remissions will be given at the discretion of the SLT/Governing body:

- Parents/carers in receipt of Free School Meals, Universal Credit and other income related benefits.
- Parents/carers who qualify for support under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Families experiencing acute financial hardship who are not entitled to any of the above.

There are also occasions where parents and carers may approach the school because they may be struggling financially. The ethos of school is to support families during these times. This includes ensuring they are accessing all financial support they are entitled to, via referrals into other agencies, but could also include the reduction or waiver of school related costs for a temporary period such as dinner money, after school clubs and trips.