

The Nethersole C of E Academy

Charging and Remissions Policy

**To be light (living in our community and reaching out beyond it)
bringing out the
God-colours in the world.'**

Jesus said, 'You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world.' **Matthew 5:16**



Date Policy Ratified by the LAB	March 2026
Headteacher	Mrs S J Goode
Chair of Governors	Mrs G Sparrow
Review Date	March 2029

Charging and Remissions Policy -

The Headteacher and the Local Academy Board (LAB) recognise the value of providing a wide range of experiences to enrich and extend pupil's learning and to contribute to their personal development. The Headteacher and LAB aims to promote and provide such experiences for the pupils of the school, both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum and as additional optional activities. However, many of these activities have an associated cost and cannot be provided unless voluntary contributions are received, or parents are charged for the cost. This policy will set out the circumstances in which charges will or will not be made for school activities and when charges may be waived to ensure that all pupils have an equal opportunity to benefit from school visits, curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Sections 449-462 of the Education Act 1996 sets out the law on charging for school activities in schools maintained by local authorities in England. Academies (including free schools, studio schools and university technical colleges) are required through their funding agreements to comply with the law on charging for school activities.

The school aims to promote equality in all aspects of school life and with regard to all matters embraced by this policy will comply with the relevant legislation relating to equal opportunities, race relations, sex discrimination and age discrimination.

Please note that this policy only applies to pupils in school and does not include nursery aged pupils.

1. Introduction

All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

2. Voluntary Contributions

When organising educational visits or visitors to school, to enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If sufficient voluntary contributions are not received, the activity may be cancelled. If the activity goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. These children will not be treated any differently from others.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity.

The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extra's'. This list is not exhaustive -

- visits to museums, farms, educational centres
- sporting activities which require transport expenses
- outdoor adventure activities

- visits to or by a theatre company into school
- after school clubs

As part of the curriculum offer outlined each academic year, we will endeavour to offer all year groups one school visit and give parents advanced warning of this.

3. Residential Visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly relating to the National Curriculum, there will be no charge for the education. However, there will be a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging, and a request for voluntary contribution towards the cost of transport. If sufficient funds cannot be raised to cover the cost, the visit may have to be cancelled.

Please note: Children of parents/carers receiving certain benefits may be eligible for part or total funding for elements of the cost. Parents/carers must write to the Headteacher to be considered for funding. Authorisation for remission will be made by the Headteacher in consultation with the Local Academy Board and the Chair of the LAB.

4. Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

There is a charge for individual or small group music tuition as these lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. This is charged in line with the Warwickshire Music Service agreement and costings.

5. Swimming

We make no charge for this activity. There is a charge for any swimming badges awarded if parents wish to purchase. We inform parents / carers when these swimming lessons are to take place, and we seek written permission for their children to take part.

6. Sport

The school may offer additional sport coaching after school. A qualified coach, who is not a member of the school staff, may run and organise these sessions. There will be a charge for these sessions.

7. Art and Design Technology

An additional charge may be made for materials and ingredients for practical subjects when necessary.

8. Loss/Damage

The school may ask for contributions to breakages and loss of books or equipment.

In the case of books being lost or damaged, school will send out a link from Amazon to replace the lost or damaged books for the school.

9. Passport Applications

Should the Headteacher be requested to complete a passport application regarding identity of a pupil, the school may charge a fee, this is due to the time required in order to complete this process.

9. Cedars

Due to an increase in costs over the last few years for staffing, food and resources, the following charges were brought in for September 2025.

The cost for Cedars – Wraparound Provision – is set out below:

Before School session including Breakfast – 7.40am to 8.10am	£2.50
After School session including a snack – 3.15pm to 4.30pm	£7.00
Late Charge for After School Collection (after 4.30pm)	£5.00 per each 15-minute period late

The school also provides a 'Universal Free Breakfast Club' offer from 8.10am to 8.40am Monday to Friday.

For any pupils not collected from school at the normal end to the day -

EYFS and KS1 by 3:10pm and KS2 by 3.15pm -

Children will be taken to Cedars and parents will be charged. This will be at the Headteacher's discretion based on the situation. We appreciate from time-to-time parents will be late due to emergency situations, but this is for where this is not the case. This will be charged in line with the normal Cedars fees as above.

10. Nursery

At the Nethersole C of E Academy, we offer nursery provision for children aged 2-4 years old. This section outlines the charging and remissions arrangements specific to nursery services, in line with the school's commitment to accessibility, transparency, and fairness.

1. Funded Entitlement

All eligible children are entitled to 15 hours per week of free nursery education during term time, funded by the local authority.

Some families may be entitled to 30 hours of funded nursery provision, subject to meeting government criteria. Parents must apply via the HMRC Childcare Service and provide a valid eligibility code.

Additional Hours and Services Charges may apply for:

-Additional nursery hours beyond the funded entitlement.

- Lunchtime supervision and meals.
- Enrichment activities or trips not covered by the funded curriculum.

2. Fees for these Services

- Lunch supervision (including a school dinner) (11:45am- 12:15pm) - £5.00 per session.
- By arrangement, parents may choose to book extra nursery sessions beyond the funded entitlement. These additional sessions are charged at a rate of £15.00 per three-hour session.
- A charge of £5 will be applied for each instance of late collection from nursery beyond a 15-minute grace period after the agreed pick-up time. This charge covers the cost of additional staffing and supervision required.

3. Remissions and Financial Support

The Nethersole C of E Academy is committed to ensuring that no child is disadvantaged due to financial hardship. Therefore:

- Families eligible for Pupil Premium, Universal Credit, or experiencing temporary financial difficulty may apply for partial or full remission of nursery fees.
- Requests will be considered confidentially by the Headteacher and the LAB.
- Evidence of eligibility may be required, and decisions will be communicated in writing.

4. Non-Payment of Fees

- Non-payment of agreed nursery fees may result in withdrawal of additional hours or services.

11. Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the Local Academy Board (LAB) and will be reviewed every two years.

Families experiencing difficulties in any of these areas are asked to contact the Headteacher.