



## Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur

### Charging Policy

	Enw	Llofnod	Dyddiad
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Dyddiad Adolygu

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## **Policy on Charging for School Activities**

### **Purpose of the Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the charges that can and cannot be made for activities at Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur. The policy has been drawn up in accordance with Sections 449-462 of the Education Act 1996 which clarify the law concerning the charges that can and cannot be made for activities in schools maintained by local authorities.

### **Circumstances in which no charge is made**

#### **There is no charge for:**

- School education
- Education provided wholly or mainly during school hours.
- Admission of children of compulsory school age to school.
- Activities that are part of the National Curriculum, or part of a specified examination syllabus, or part of religious education.
- Any materials, books and other instruments or equipment provided.

### **Transport**

- Transport for registered pupils to and from the school premises, if the local authority is status obliged to provide transport.
- Transport for registered pupils to another premises where the governing body or local authority has arranged for pupils to be educated.
- Arranged transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement, when they have been prepared for that examination at the school.
- Arranged transport provided in relation to an educational visit that is part of the National Curriculum.

### **Residential visits**

- Education provided during any visit that takes place during school hours.
- Education provided during any visit that takes place outside school hours, if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for an examination specified public for which the pupil is being prepared at the school, or as part of religious education.
- Supply teachers to replace those teachers who are absent from school because they accompany pupils on a residential visit.

### **Musical instrument training**

- Children who learn to play musical instruments as part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a specified public examination for which the pupil is being prepared for it by the school, or part of religious education; or a cost attached to preparing a pupil for an examination.

### **Exam fees**

- A registration fee for a specified public examination, if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school, or a registration fee for resitting an examination if the pupil is be prepared for the examination in question at the school.

## **Circumstances in which the school may charge parents**

### **Optional additional activities**

Charges may be made for other activities known as optional additional activities. Where an optional additional activity is provided, a charge may be made as follows for the provision of materials, books, instruments or equipment:

#### **Education**

- Activities that take place wholly or mainly outside school time, if not part of the National Curriculum, form part of a syllabus for an examination specified public for which the pupil is being prepared at the school, or as part of religious education.
- Materials used in practical subjects and project assignments, provided that parents have agreed in advance that they or the pupil wish to keep the finished product, e.g. ingredients or materials.

#### **Musical instrument education**

- The teaching of musical instruments provided to individual pupils, or a group of a maximum of four pupils, if teaching is not part of the National Curriculum or public examination syllabus followed by the pupil.

#### **Transport**

- Transport not required to take the pupil to school or other premises where the governing body has arranged for education to be provided to the pupil.

#### **Exam fees**

- The examination was on the specified list, but the pupil was not prepared for it at the school.
- The examination is not on the specified list, but the school makes the arrangements for the pupil to complete in the centre.
- A pupil fails, without good reason, to meet the requirements of any public examination, where the governing body or local authority has paid or agreed to pay the registration fee in original.

#### **Food and Accommodation**

- The cost of food and accommodation for residential trips, even when the journeys take place mainly during school time. (Pupils whose parents receive certain benefits are exempt from paying the cost of food and accommodation, see page 4).

#### **Voluntary contributions**

Although schools cannot charge for activities that take place during school time, voluntary contributions from parents can be requested for activities that complement the normal curriculum of the school.

Applications to parents for voluntary contributions will state:

- there is no legal obligation to make a voluntary contribution;
- pupils will not be left out because of their parents' inability or unwillingness to pay;

- that the children of parents who cannot contribute will not be treated differently in any way;
- that the activity will be cancelled if there are insufficient voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and if there is no way of supplying the shortfall.

Applications made for voluntary contributions in respect of individual pupils should not include any element of subsidy for any other pupils wishing to participate in the activity, their parents are not willing or able to pay the full charge.

### **Non-charging**

Parents who can prove they are in receipt of the following benefits are exempt from paying the cost of food and accommodation on a residential trip:

a. Income Support.

b. Income-based jobseeker's allowance.

c. Any other benefit or allowance, or are entitled to any tax credit under the Tax Credits Act 2002 or an element of such tax credit, so that regulations will indicate from time to time, for any period belonging in full or in part to the time spent on the journey. Currently, the following are identified:

o support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. o Child Tax Credit, provided that the person concerned is not also in receipt of Working Tax Credit and the family income is not (according to an assessment by HM Revenue and Customs) of more than £16,190(i.e. children eligible for free school meals. Income Based.

d. The guarantee element in the State Pension Credit

d. Receiving Universal Credit

The governing body may wish not to charge parents, in whole or in part, for the cost of other activities in certain circumstances.

### **Supplementary Information**

School uniform, PHYSICAL education clothing, calculators, pens etc, aprons. Parents may be invited to provide items of personal equipment intended for use by only their child.

### **Damaging property**

If a pupil's behaviour results in damage to the school property or equipment, parents may be asked to pay for the necessary repairs or pay for property or equipment new. All incidents should be dealt with on its merits and at the discretion of the school.