



CARDINAL
NEWMAN
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS

POLICY

2024-2025

Dated : 04th March 2024

1. Admissions

There is no charge for admissions.

2. School meals

There is no charge for children who are entitled to free school meals. Pupils who are not entitled to free school meals will be charged according to the price list set by the catering team.

3. Public examinations

There is no charge for examinations that are part of the curriculum and on the school's set examinations list, where children have been prepared for the examinations by the school. However, if the pupil fails without good reason to meet an examination requirement, the school may recover the fee incurred from that pupil's parents.

Where pupils are entered for exams that are not on the set list, or where pupils have been prepared for the exams outside school, the school will charge the entry fee to those exams to the pupil's parents.

Sixth Form Students will be required to pay for all resits. A charge may be made for other resits subject to the school examination policy. The Headteacher may make a discretionary exception in certain cases on a one-to-one basis.

4. Transport

Transport

Schools cannot charge for:

- transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local education authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport.
- transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing body or local education authority has arranged for pupils to be educated.
- transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he has been prepared for that examination at the school; and

5. Activities that take place during school hours (this does not include the break in the middle of the school day)

There is no charge for activities during school hours with the exception of music tuition (**section 8**).

We may charge for:

- books and materials that the parent wishes the child to keep (the cost will be made clear to the parents before charge)
- optional extras (**section 6**)
- music or vocal tuition (**section 9**).
- For practical subjects such as Technology or Art for pupils to provide their own materials/ingredients for the finished products which they will take home.

6. Activities that take place outside of school hours (non-residential)

There is no charge for activities that take place outside of school hours when they are:

- part of the set curriculum, including sports matches against other schools.
- part of the syllabus for a public examination that the pupil is being prepared for by the school.
- part of the school's basic curriculum for religious education.

Optional extras

The school will charge for optional extras. Optional extras are:

- education provided outside of school time that is **not**:
 - a) part of the National Curriculum
 - b) part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school.
 - c) part of religious education
- examination entry fee(s) if the registered pupil has not been prepared for the examination(s) at the school.
- transport that is not taking the pupil to school or to other premises where the local authority or governing body has arranged for the pupil to be provided with education.
- board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit.
- Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh award, including expedition costs.

The cost of optional extras

The headteacher will decide when it is necessary to charge for optional activities.

Any charge made in respect of individual pupils will not exceed the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally by the number of pupils participating. In no circumstances will there be an element of subsidy required for any pupils wishing to participate in the activity whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge (**section 13**).

When calculating the cost of optional extras an amount may be included in relation to:

- any materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in connection with the optional extra.
- non-teaching staff
- teaching staff engaged under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra, including supply teachers engaged specifically to provide the optional extra.
- the cost, or a proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, where the tuition is an optional extra.

Participation in any optional extra activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to pay the charges.

7. Activities that take place *partly* during school hours either on or off site

Where the majority of a non-residential activity takes place during school hours the charging of the activity will be the same as is outlined in **section 5**.

Travelling time is included in time spent on activity.

In cases where the majority of a non-residential activity takes place outside of school hours the charge cannot include the cost of alternative provision for those pupils who do not wish to participate. So, no charge can be made for supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a visit.

In this case the charging of the activity will be the same as is outlined in **section 6**.

8. Residential activities

Our school will not charge for:

- education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours.
- education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education.
- supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit.
- residential activities that take place during school hours.

Our school will charge for:

Board and lodging.

When any visit has been organised by the school where there may be a cost for board and lodging, parents will be informed of this before the visit takes place. *We will charge anything up to the full cost of board and lodging on residential visits, whether it is classified as taking place during school hours or not.* The charge will not exceed the actual cost. (see **section 12** for more guidance on remissions).

Travel

Travel charges may apply when the residential activity takes place outside of school hours. The amount charged will be calculated to cover the unit cost per pupil. These charges may not apply to those pupils entitled to remissions, but no other pupils will be charged extra to cover those costs.

Activities

The school may charge for residential activities that fall **outside** of school hours (**see section 6**).

Staff Charges

Where a member of staff will need to pay a contribution in order to go on a trip this will be clearly communicated, and staff agreement confirmed before the trip is given the go ahead.

Subsidising of trips

At the school's discretion some trips, such as retreats to Dol Y Moch, may be subsidised by the school. These will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

9. Music tuition within school hours

The school follows government legislation that states that all education provided during school hours must be free; however, music tuition is an exception to this rule.

Charges will be made if the teaching is **not** an essential part of either the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil(s).

The school may charge for teaching requested by parents and delivered by specialist tutors given to either an individual pupil or groups of any appropriate size (provided that the size of the group is based on sound pedagogical principles) to play a musical instrument or to sing. The cost of these lessons may depend on the size and duration of the class as well as the type of instrument.

The school is dedicated to ensuring equal opportunities for all pupils including access to specialised music tuition, therefore charges will be considered by the Headteacher on a one-to-one basis.

There is no charge for vocal or instrumental tuition for children in care. This includes instruments, music books and exam fees.

10. Extended services

The school is dedicated to providing a well-rounded and extensive education for our students which includes a wide range of extra-curricular activities (extended services). Extended services enable our school to provide:

- high-quality learning opportunities either side of the school day
- ways of intervening early when children are at risk of poor outcomes.

- ways of increasing pupil engagement
- ways of improving outcomes and narrowing gaps in outcomes between different groups of pupils.

The total charge will not exceed the cost of providing the activity and no parent will be asked to subsidise others.

11. Damage to property and breakages

Where school property has been wilfully damaged by a student or parent the school may charge those responsible for some or all of the cost of repair or replacement.

Where property belonging to a third party has been damaged by a pupil, and the school has been charged, the school may charge some or all of the cost to those responsible.

Whether or not these charges will be made will be decided by the headteacher and dependent on the situation.

12. Remissions and concessions

The school will give consideration to the remission of charges to parents or carers in line with the Educational Visits Policy. Parents who receive a remission of charges will be dealt with confidentially.

The headteacher and chair of governors will authorise the remission of charges.

The school may choose to subsidise part or all of the payment of some charges for certain activities and pupils, and this will be determined by the headteacher and governing body.

Where there are cases of family hardship which makes it difficult for students to take part in particular activities for which a charge is made, the Local Governing Body may remit all or part of this charge, at the discretion of the Head Teacher.

13. Voluntary contributions

The school may ask for voluntary contributions to the school for general funds and/or to fund activities that will enrich our pupils' education.

In any case where an activity cannot be afforded without voluntary funding, this will be made clear to the parents by the school. If the activity is cancelled all monies paid will be returned to parents.

There is no obligation for a parent or carer to make any contribution and the school will in no way pressure parents to make a contribution.

14. Inability or unwillingness to pay

The school is committed to ensuring fair access and treatment of all pupils, and this means ensuring that no child is excluded from an activity because the parents or carers of that child are unwilling or unable to pay. If there is insufficient funding for an activity, then it will be cancelled.

The identity of the child or parents of the child who did not want to make the payment, or could not make the payment, will not be disclosed under any circumstances.

15. Payments

Cardinal Newman operates a cashless payment system for all parental contributions to school activities. This system is currently operated through School Gateway.

Parents who are unable to make online payments can on request to the school reception receive a barcoded letter to allow payments to be made at a pay portal provider.

Signed by:

_____	The Chair of Governors	Date:
	Headteacher	Date:

This policy will be reviewed in July 2025