

Brownsover Community School

Charging Policy



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Prepared By	Elisa Basnett
Acknowledgement(s)	All staff
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Document Information

Document history

Version no.	Date	Change
1	Jan 16	Update HSA to FABS, committee details
1.2	Jan 19	Governor update
1.3	Jan 22	Update to Gov structure details & swimming lessons

Approvals

Role	Name	Signature / Approval	Date
Headteacher	E. Basnett	yes	Jan 22
Governors - Full Governing Body			
Governors - Chair of Governors	Helen Owens		
Governor			

Reviewers

Role	Name
Headteacher	Elisa Basnett
Governors	

Distribution for Information

Role	Name

Rationale

Brownsover Community School aims to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that is enriched through a wide variety of additional experiences. These take place both on and off the school site and all activities are chosen to support the children's learning and the school's ethos.

The Education Act 1996 clarifies the activities for which charges can be made or voluntary contributions sought and gives schools the discretion to charge for optional activities, provided wholly or mainly out of 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 after school hours.

Objectives

The objectives of the Charging Policy are:

- To ensure activities offered in school time should be available to all pupils regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
- To identify those activities for which charges may be levied.
- To invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school in support of any activities organised by the school either during or outside school hours.

Charges

- The Governing Body reserves the right to make a charge in the following circumstances allowed by the Act:
- The provision of music tuition given to children as individuals or in groups, except where it is to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum or requirements specified in the syllabus for a public exam
- Ingredients and materials for cooking, Art, Craft, Design & Technology activities. Materials will be charged for (or parents will be required to supply these) if they have indicated in advance a wish to own the finished product.
- Activities which take place outside school hours and which are not a statutory part of the National Curriculum e.g. outings, visits, sports coaching, cycling courses.
- Trips and activities during the school day (through a voluntary contribution)

Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits, which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip.

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. However should we not receive sufficient contributions to make the trip viable, it might be cancelled. The school will provide a breakdown of how trips and activities are funded should this be required.

Breakages

In cases of wilful damage, breakage or loss of equipment on loan to children, the Headteacher, in consultation with the Chair of the Resources Committee may decide to make a charge. Each incident will be dealt with on its own merit and at their discretion.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the school curriculum for which there is no charge.

Peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons, which are not part of the curriculum and we make a charge for these lessons. Contributions towards these lessons for those parents in receipt of Free School Meals/Pupil Premium are given at the discretion of the

Headteacher and Governing Body and within the limitations of the school budget. We give parents information about additional music tuition prior to the start of each academic year.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in KS1. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We invite parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of the pool hire, coaching costs and transport to and from the pool. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

Out of School clubs and activities

The school offers a range of out-of-school clubs – and reserves the right to charge for such sessions to cover the cost of provision where those activities are not directly aimed at providing educational benefit to pupils.

Bridges Childcare

The school aims to promote affordable and financially self-sustainable childcare with full regard to existing provision within the locality under the Bridges out of School Care. Parents/Carers will be responsible for meeting full costs for the childcare provided by Bridges. However, some parents may be eligible for financial support towards childcare costs e.g. through Working Tax Credits.

Additional In-School Charges

Private Photocopying/Telephone Calls

The Governors have agreed that, under normal circumstances, no charge will be made for these services. Should a large number of copies or calls be required for personal use, permission will be sought from the Headteacher and a donation will be agreed to cover costs.

Income from Sales

Some goods are purchased through the school for the convenience of parents, children e.g. Book bags. No charge will be made for these items although parents are asked to fund replacements in cases of lost or damaged items. Some goods will be sold through the school with the intention of making a small profit and this often takes the form of commission. Goods include; Book Fair sales and school photographs.

Income from Donations

Occasionally, the school will seek voluntary donations from events such as non-uniform days, sponsorship etc. The purpose for which the donation will be used is explained clearly to parents and visitors.

Income from Lettings

The Finance Committee review annually and set charges for the use of school premises. These costs are laid down in the School Letting Policy and include caretaking, insurance and energy costs.

The school does not charge FABS (Fundraising Friends at Brownsover School) for use of the school for fund-raising activities.