

Colyton Grammar School CHARGES FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The Education Reform Act (1998), the Education Act (1996) and subsequent legislation require the governing body to draw up, and keep under review, its own policies in respect of charges and remission arrangements.

1. Aims

- (a) To make available to as many students as possible involvement in school activities.
- (b) To maintain a fair system of charges within the constraints of the resources available to the school.

2. Practice

To maintain the present level of optional activities offered to students, charges will be made as permitted by the relevant legislation. Such charges will include:

- (a) The cost of board and lodging on a residential visit.
- (b) Activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours but which are not provided as part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination and are not required in order to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum or to Religious Education. The costs can include a pupil's travel, board and lodging, materials, instruments and other equipment, entrance fees to museums, castles, theatres, etc., and insurance. Any charge may take account of the cost of engaging staff specifically for the purpose of providing the activity and supplying such staff with travel, board and lodging.
- (c) A charge may be made for materials used in Design & Technology (including Food) and Art where parents have indicated a wish to own the finished product.
- (d) The cost of entering a pupil for a public examination not prescribed in the regulations and for preparing the pupil for such an examination outside school hours.
- (e) Re-sits of prescribed public examination where no further preparation has been provided by the school.
- (f) The cost of examination results being re-scrutinised where this is requested by the parents.
- (g) The cost of entering a pupil for a public examination where the pupil fails without good reason to complete the requirement of any public examination where the governing body originally paid or agreed to pay the entry fee
- (h) The cost of repairing damage to school property or replacing damaged or lost textbooks and other materials where this is the result of a pupil's behaviour.

The charge will be based on the actual costs of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally by the number of pupils participating. No element of subsidy for other pupils wishing to participate in the activity whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge can be included.

Participation in any optional extra activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to meet the charges. Parental agreement is therefore a necessary pre-requisite for the provision of an optional extra where charges will be made.

3. Activities Directly Supporting the Curriculum

Voluntary contributions from parents will be sought for the above activities. If the activity cannot be funded without such contributions, this should be made clear to parents at the outset. It must also be made clear to parents that there is no obligation to make any contribution.