



Bexley Grammar School

Charging Policy

Bexley Grammar School is committed to the provision of free education for all registered pupils, where such education takes place wholly or mainly during School hours.

The exceptions to this will include fees for music tuition unless this is provided to fulfil the requirements of a syllabus for a prescribed examination. There may also be times when the School will ask for voluntary contributions for such things as School journeys that take place wholly or mainly during the School day and for material, ingredients and equipment for a practical subject. Such contributions are voluntary: a pupil at the School will not be treated differently according to whether or not parents / carers have made a contribution in response to a request. However, if sufficient funding cannot be raised voluntarily it may be necessary to cancel the relevant proposed activity.

Notwithstanding the above, the School may raise charges as follows:

- Board and Lodgings on residential visits;
- Costs associated with individual tuition in the playing of a musical instrument whether in or out of School hours (unless as part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination or as required by the National Curriculum);
- Activities which take place wholly or mainly outside School hours but which are not provided as part of the School syllabus are not required in order to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum or to religious education;
- Re-sit fees for public examinations, for which the student is not being prepared by the school;
- Entry fees for public examinations where students fail to attend or fail to submit the required coursework;
- Match fees for optional, extracurricular sports fixtures;
- Occasional, optional charges for subject specific equipment e.g. a graphical calculator which are procured in bulk by the school to provide best value for parents / carers

Residual Funds from School Trips

If any residual funds remain from a school trip, these funds (unless totalling £20 or more per student attending the trip) will not be refunded. Instead, they will be used for post-event activities or events for that cohort, at the discretion of the trip leader, and so are returned to the family through this mechanism.

Remissions

A: Parents / Carers on Benefits

Remission of charges for parents / carers in receipt of:

- income support
 - income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
 - income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Universal Credit
 - Pension Credit
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- The full cost of board and lodging on residential visits in school time
 - The full cost of board and lodging on residential visits outside school time which are covered by the following criteria:
 - where the purpose is to fulfil any requirements specified in the syllabus for a prescribed public examination
 - where the purpose is to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum imposed by the Education Act 1996
 - Costs associated with individual or small group tuition in the playing of a musical instrument, whether in or out of academy hours

B: General Remission

- The cost of individual instrumental music tuition will also be remitted in all cases where the individual tuition is provided as part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination or is required by the National Curriculum. There may be occasions where two or three students receive additional music lessons together at a reduced cost.