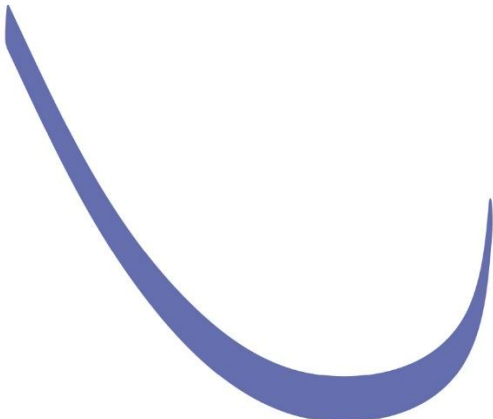


A large, stylized blue 'U' shape, which is the logo for Beatrice Tate School.

beatrice tate school

Policy status	Statutory
Reviewed	18 th May 2026
Review date	May 2027

Safeguarding Statement

At Beatrice Tate School we respect and value all children and young people and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our students so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every student should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Beatrice Tate School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our learners by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

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Version	Date	Author	Description of change
January 2023	30.01.23	WH	New policy
January 2024	29.01.24	WH	Reviewed. Compliant; no changes necessary.
March 2025	24.03.25	WH	Reviewed. Compliant; no changes necessary.
May 2026	18.05.26	WH	Policy reviewed and updated to reflect current DfE guidance and terminology. Removed outdated references to Family Income Supplement and LA grant schemes. Clarified governance approval arrangements and updated terminology for consistency with school practice. Amendments to strengthen equality and inclusion wording.

1. Aims

Our school aims to:

- Have robust, clear processes in place for charging and remissions
- Clearly set out the types of activity that can be charged for and when charges will and will not be made
- Offer a range of activities and visits whilst minimising the financial barriers that may prevent some students from taking full advantage of these opportunities
- Ensure that no learner is disadvantaged from participation due to financial hardship, disability or family circumstance

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on [charging for school activities](#) and [the Education Act 1996](#), sections 449 to 462 of which set out the law on charging for school activities in England.

It's also based on guidance from the DfE on [statutory policies for schools and academy trusts](#).

3. Definitions

- **Charge:** a fee payable for specifically defined activities
- **Remission:** the cancellation of a charge which would normally be payable

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The Governing Body

The Governing Body retains responsibility for approval of this policy

The Governing Body also has overall responsibility for monitoring the implementation of this policy.

4.2 Headteachers

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring staff are familiar with the charging and remissions policy, and that it is being applied consistently.

4.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Implementing the charging and remissions policy consistently
- Notifying the Headteacher of any specific circumstances which they are unsure about or where they are not certain if the policy applies

The school will provide staff with appropriate training in relation to this policy and its implementation.

4.4 Parents

Parents are expected to notify staff or the Headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding the charging and remissions policy.

5. Where charges cannot be made

Below we set out what we **cannot** charge for:

5.1 Education

- Admission applications
- Education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)
- Education provided outside school hours if it is part of:
 - The National Curriculum
 - A syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the student is being prepared for at the school
 - Religious education
- Instrumental or vocal tuition, for students learning individually or in groups, unless the tuition is provided at the request of the student's parent
- Entry for a prescribed public examination if the student has been prepared for it at the school
- Examination re-sit(s) if the student is being prepared for the re-sit(s) at the school

5.2 Transport

- Transporting registered students to or from the school premises, where the local authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport
- Transporting registered students to other premises where the Governing Body or local authority has arranged for students to be educated
- Transport that enables a student to meet an examination requirement when he or she has been prepared for that examination at the school
- Transport provided in connection with an educational visit

5.3 Residential visits

- 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
 - A syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the student is being prepared for at the school
 - Religious education
- Supply teachers, covering for teachers who are absent from school, accompanying students on a residential visit

6. Where charges can be made

Below we set out what we **can** charge for:

6.1 Education

- Any materials, books, instruments or equipment, where the child's parent wishes him or her to own them
- Optional extras (see section 6.2)
- Music and vocal tuition, in limited circumstances (see section 6.3)
- Certain early years provision
- Community facilities
- Examination re-sit(s) if the student is being prepared for the re-sit(s) at the school **and** the student fails, without good reason, to meet any examination requirement for a syllabus

6.2 Optional extras

We are able to charge for activities known as 'optional extras'. In these cases, schools can charge for providing materials, books, instruments or equipment. The following are optional extras:

- Education provided outside of school time that is not part of:
 - The National Curriculum
 - A syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the student is being prepared for at the school
 - Religious education
- Examination entry fee(s) if the registered student has not been prepared for the examination(s) at the school
- Transport (other than transport that is required to take the student to school or to other premises where the local authority or Governing Body has arranged for the student to be provided with education)
- Board and lodging for a student on a residential visit
- Extended day services offered to students (such as breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, tea and supervised homework sessions)

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
- The cost of buildings and accommodation
- 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 an appropriate proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, or vocal tuition, where the tuition is an optional extra

Any charge made in respect of individual students will not be greater than the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally by the number of students participating.

Any charge will not include an element of subsidy for any other students who wish to take part in the activity but whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge.

In cases where a small proportion of the activity takes place during school hours, the charge cannot include the cost of alternative provision for those students who do not wish to participate.

Parental agreement is necessary for the provision of an optional extra which is to be charged for.

6.3 Music tuition

Schools can charge for vocal or instrumental tuition provided either individually or to groups of students, provided that the tuition is provided at the request of the student's parent.

Charges may not exceed the cost of the provision, including the cost of the staff giving the tuition.

Charges cannot be made:

- If the teaching is an essential part of the National Curriculum
- For a student who is looked after by a local authority

6.4 Residential visits

We can charge for board and lodging on residential visits, but the charge must not exceed the actual cost.

7. Voluntary contributions

As an exception to the requirements set out in section 5 of this policy, the school is able to ask for voluntary contributions from parents to fund activities which would not otherwise be possible.

There is no obligation for parents to make any contribution, and no child will be excluded from an activity if their parents are unwilling or unable to pay.

If the school is unable to raise enough funds for an activity or visit then it will be cancelled.

8. Activities we charge for

Education wholly or mainly within school hours will be provided free of charge. The exception to this is the provision of individual music tuition which is not a part of the normal delivery of the music curriculum and music lessons.

Parents and guardians may be asked to contribute in part or wholly to the cost of individual music tuition and also may have to provide, or contribute to the cost of, musical instruments, music scores and associated items and pay examination fees.

If a particular activity is limited to a specific number of students, the inclusion of students must not make reference to the ability or willingness to pay on behalf of the parent or guardian. A charge may be made for activities which take place partly or wholly outside school hours.

Out of school activities will be organised to supplement and support formal learning in curriculum areas and to provide further experiences to enable learners to develop their full potential.

8.1. School Journeys

The School will charge only for board and lodging for those students involved in residential journeys, in addition, voluntary contributions may be requested to cover the cost of travel.

All other costs of the School Journey will be borne by the School as the residential journey is a part of the school curriculum and is taking place in term time.

Parents and guardians in receipt of qualifying benefits may be eligible for remission of board and lodging charges. The School will make applications to the LA on behalf of the parent.

The Governing Body may at its discretion, and on recommendation of the Headteacher, remit part or all of the charge for a School Journey.

8.2. School Trips Abroad

Education trips abroad and skiing holidays are only organised in the school holidays. These are always voluntary and parents and guardians will be expected to meet the full cost. However, parents and guardians who are in receipt of Income Support may be entitled to a grant towards the cost from the LA.

The school may support families to access any available local authority or charitable funding where applicable.

8.3. Day Educational Visits

Parents and guardians may be asked for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of day visits arranged for individual classes only if the school has insufficient funds to meet the cost.

However, no student will be prevented from taking part in the outing because parents are unwilling or unable to pay. But it may happen that without sufficient contributions the activity may have to be cancelled.

This will be made clear to parents in the letter advising details of the activity.

8.4. Educational Theatre Visits

Parents and guardians may be asked for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of theatre visits and similar activities arranged for individual classes only if the school has insufficient funds to meet the cost. However, no student will be prevented from taking part in the outing because parents are unwilling or unable to pay.

But it may happen that without sufficient contributions the activity may have to be cancelled. This will be made clear to parents in the letter advising details of the activity.

8.5. Ingredients & Materials for Practical Subjects

Normally all ingredients and materials will be provided by the School. However in cases where a student wishes to retain the finished produce, a small charge can be made.

For regular activities, the charges for each activity will be determined by the Governing Body and reviewed each year. Parents will be informed of the charges for the coming year if any in September each year.

9. Remissions

In some circumstances, the school may not charge for items or activities set out in sections 6 and 8 of this policy. This will be at the discretion of the Governing Body and will depend on the activity in question.

9.1 Remissions for residential visits

Parents who can prove they are in receipt of any of the following benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging for residential visits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit – provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit – if you apply on or after 1 April 2018, your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

10. Monitoring arrangements

The Headteacher monitors charges and remissions, and ensures these comply with this policy.

This policy will be reviewed by the Headteacher every year.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the Governing Body.