New Seaham Academy

Charging and Remissions Policy

2026-2027

1 **Introduction**

1.1 All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

2 **Voluntary contributions**

2.1 When organising school trips, visitors or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

2.2 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. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request.

2.3 The following is a list of additional activities, which may be organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums; places of interest
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;

- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to or by a theatre company;
- musical events;
- visitors delivering workshops to the pupils
- 'Treat' activities such as Ten Pin Bowling or Trampolining

3

4 **Residential visits**

3.1 If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or weekends we suggest a subsidised charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and travel. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled.

5 **Music tuition**

4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

6 **Clubs**

6.1 The school offers additional opportunities after school: Karate and Table-Tennis. There is currently no weekly charge for clubs attended.

7 **Buses**

7.1 For many activities transport is required. We normally charge, however, we use these charges only to cover the expenses of the trip, and not to make a profit.

8 **Monitoring and review**

8.1 This policy is monitored by the governing body, and will be reviewed every two years, or earlier if necessary.

9 **Exceptional Circumstances**

9.1 The Head Teacher and Governing body may decide that charges we would normally receive may be waivered or reduced under exceptional circumstances.

Any such decision would be at the discretion of the Head Teacher and or designated officer and each case will be considered individually.

Signed: S. Bilton

Approved by the Board of Trustees: September 2026

Reviewed: September 2026

To next be reviewed: September 2027