

YSGOL PONTROBERT

POLICY ON CHARGES FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Cadarnhawyd gan y Corff Llywodraethol/Policy approved by Governing Body;
Mai / May 2014

Llofnod Prfathrawes / Headteacher's signature:

Llofnod Cadeirydd / Chair's signature:

Dyddiad / Date

Dyddiad Adolygu / Review Date:

Introduction

Section 457 of the Education Act 1996 requires the Governing Body of any Council maintained school to adopt a policy on charging and remission arrangements for school activities. This policy is adopted by the Governing Body of Ysgol Pontrobert.

Principal circumstances in which charging is permissible under the Education Act 1996 are:

- a. board and lodging on residential visits;
- b. costs associated with individual tuition or tuition in groups of up to 4 pupils in the playing of a musical instrument whether in or out of school hours (unless it is provided as part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination as required by the National Curriculum);
- c. activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours (as defined in Welsh Office Circular 4/89), but which are not provided as part of the syllabus for prescribed public examinations and are not required in order to fulfil statutory duties related to the National Curriculum;
- d. the cost of entering a pupil for a public examination not prescribed in regulations, and for preparing the pupil for such an examination outside school hours;

Main Principles of this Policy

The Governing Body shall levy charges on parents up to the limit specified in the Education Act 1996, as described in Welsh Office Circular 4/89.

Where charging for activities is not possible under the Education Act 1996 the school will invite voluntary contributions from parents both for specific activities and for a general school fund in order to support those activities (Education Act 1996, Section 460).

Where parents are unable or unwilling to contribute on a voluntary basis to activities taking place wholly or mainly during school hours, then the pupils of those parents will not be prevented from taking part in the activity.

Governors may grant individuals or groups of pupils leave of absence for not more than two weeks in any one year (save in exceptional circumstances) to enable them to participate in activities (including parental holidays) organised by someone other than the LEA or Governing Body of the school (Statutory Provision - Education (Schools and Further Education) Regulations 1981, Regulation 12).

Remissions Policy

Section 457 (4) of the Education Act 1996 states that a Remissions Policy shall provide for complete remission of any charges otherwise payable in respect of board and lodging provided for a pupil on a residential trip if:

- (a) the education provided on the trip is education in respect of which, by virtue of Section 451, no charge may be made; and
- (b) the pupil's parents are in receipt of:
 - i) Income Support;
 - ii) Income-Based Job Seeker's Allowance (payable under the Job Seeker's Act 1995);
 - iii) Child Tax Credit (but not Working Tax Credit);
 - iv) Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
 - v) Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

in respect of any period wholly or partly comprised in the time spent on the trip.

The costs of the remission of charges under the above arrangements will be met by the school.