



Policy Name: Charging Policy

To be reviewed: Autumn Term 2026

Edition/Version Number: 3

Melin Primary School

Charging Policy

Beliefs and Values

At Melin Primary School our curriculum is underpinned and enriched by quality experiences that develop pupils' skills and knowledge. These include visits to places of educational, historical, cultural, geographical, environmental interest, and bringing visitors to the school who have a particular interest or area of expertise to share with us. Visits and visitors are carefully planned and are part of the topics being studied by pupils and are planned as 'memorable experiences'.

We believe that, in principle, all education should be freely available to all children. Parents will, however, be asked to make voluntary contributions to support visits to the locations/events such as but not limited to the theatre, cinema and places of interest. The voluntary contribution will help meet any costs for entry and coach hire. Parents are not asked for a contribution to meet the costs of visiting musicians, artists, theatre groups etc. The headteacher and teachers try to keep financial requests to parents to the minimum, without restricting the range of educational experiences offered.

If a parent is unable or unwilling to make a voluntary contribution, the child is allowed to participate fully in the visit or activity, in line with the 1988 Education Act. Visits are generally subsidised from school fund and the cost of a visitor to school is met wholly from school fund. Parents have a right to know how each visit, or event, is funded and are advised, accordingly, through the weekly newsletter.

Rights of the Child

Melin Primary School respects the Rights of the Child and firmly believes that it contributes positively to both the four purposes of our curriculum, but also our vision as a school. This policy supports these aims through the following rights:

- **Article 1** - Everyone under 18 has all these rights.
- **Article 3** - The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.
- **Article 13** - You have the right to find out things and say what you think, through making art, speaking and writing, unless it breaks the rights of others.
- **Article 15** - You have the right to be with friends and join or set up clubs, unless this breaks the rights of others.

- **Article 23** - If you are disabled, either mentally or physically, you have the right to special care and education to help you develop and lead a full life.
- **Article 24** - Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy
- **Article 27** - You have the right to a good enough standard of living. This means you should have food, clothes and a place to live.
- **Article 28** - You have the right to education.
- **Article 29** - You have the right to education which tries to develop your personality and abilities as much as possible and encourages you to respect other people's rights and values and to respect the environment
- **Article 30** - If you come from a minority group, because of your race, religion or language, you have the right to enjoy your own culture, practise your own religion, and use your own language.
- **Article 31** - You have the right to play and relax by doing things like sports, music and drama.

Residential Visits

Residential visits are booked in conjunction with outside providers, such as the Urdd Centre at Cardiff Bay, Llangrannog and the Field Studies Centre at Margam Country Park for Key Stage Two. Pupils pay the full cost of transport, board, lodge and tuition to these agencies. Pupils in receipt of free school meals are subject to current local agreements with the Field Studies Council for residentials at Margam Park and for optional additional activities at Margam Country Park with the external provider.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. Children are also given the opportunity to take part in music lessons and to join the school choir, taught by the peripatetic music teacher. The music tuition is funded via the school's Service Agreement with the LEA Music Service. All instruments used during music lessons belong to the school or the local authority.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for the children from Year 3 to Year 6. The lessons take place in school time and can form part of the National Curriculum adventurous activities. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when

these lessons are to take place. Use of the pool and instructor is funded via a Service Agreement and transport costs are met through the school budget.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The school offers a variety of extra-curricular clubs after school. No charge is made to participants. Transport costs for sports matches / choir events / visits to places of interest to support the activities, are met from the school fund.

T Richards

October 2020

D.Harris

Reviewed October 2023