

Charging & Remissions Policy

Policy reviewed and adopted by the Board of Trustees	Summer 2024
Version	V3
Date of next review:	Summer 2025
Responsible Committee:	Finance & Personnel
Monitoring:	Trust Board
Related Policies	
Where is this policy published?	Thrive Intranet

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1 Thrive Charter

Thrive Mission Statement

Inspiring pupils to thrive in life

Thrive Values¹

Thrive Co-operative Learning Trust **understands *thriving to mean learning***, and *learning* to mean **growing in knowledge, self-reliance and in responsibility towards others**. Achieving this will allow pupils and staff to **develop a sense of agency and co-agency**, which is the awareness that we are powerful and can affect change, that life is something to be grasped rather than something that happens, and that we have maximum impact when ***we work together for the common good***. This sense of agency plays out at three scales as it affects the future of ***the individual, their community (local and national), and their planet***.

To thrive, pupils and staff need **environments that are safe, for equality to be promoted and diversity to be celebrated**, and for **wellbeing to be valued, nurtured and supported**.

- Because the service we provide is crucial to each pupil's future life chances, we ensure that **we give all pupils the opportunity to thrive**, whatever their background or perceived abilities.
- Because our task is challenging **we all strive to grow and develop**, and we support each other in this and in developing a good work-life balance.
- Because thriving happens best where adults provide pupils with a consistency of approach, **we need people who will play their part for the greater good of the team**.
- Because we serve our local communities **we act as partners in the process of assisting our children to thrive** and will work cooperatively to see this happen.
- Because leadership is a privilege **we exercise leadership in an ethical manner** and commit ourselves to upholding [The Seven Principles of Public Life](#).
- Because we are facing a climate crisis **we will work towards being an environmentally sustainable organisation** and will develop pupil and staff participation in achieving this.
- Because we are funded with public money we will ensure that **we focus our resources on pupils and enable them to thrive**.

2 Introduction

2.1 Thrive welcomes the support of recognised Trade Unions in seeking to implement this policy in a fair and consistent manner.

¹ Thrive's values are directly descended from the [Co-operative Values](#)

- 2.2 Prior to final approval by the Trust Board this policy has been the subject of consultation with unions and professional associations; their suggested amendments have been taken into consideration and changes made where they can be agreed.
- 2.3 The Trust is committed to ensuring equality of treatment and fairness in its day to day operation in line with the Equality Act 2010. To this end, the CEO and school managers will share this Charging and Remissions Policy with staff at induction and from time to time during their time at the school to ensure that staff know what is expected.
- 2.4 The Thrive Cooperative Learning Trust believes that all students should have the opportunity to gain fully from the experiences the Trust and its Academies has to offer and recognises the real and persistent difficulties faced by families on low incomes in meeting the cost of educational activities for their children.
- 2.5 We ensure that all students are entitled to full access to the compulsory school/academy curriculum regardless of parents'/carers' capacity to pay. No student will be disadvantaged due to financial hardship. Therefore, no charge is normally made for any educational activity which takes place during school/academy hours.

3 Exceptions

3.1 Activities outside school hours

The full cost for each student of journeys, trips and overnight stays which are deemed to be optional extra may be charged at the discretion of the Headteacher.

3.2 Acts of vandalism and negligence

The LGB of the school reserves the right to recover part, or the whole cost, of damage to any school property or buildings which is caused by vandalism or negligence by a student.

4 Examination Fees

- 4.1 If a student has not regularly attended the lesson for a particular examination subject, the examination fee may be requested in advance and this is refundable if the student sits the examination.
- 4.2 If, without a medical certificate, a student fails to complete requirements for any public examination for which the school paid an entry fee. The LGB may seek to recover the costs from the parent or carer.

5 Remission of Charges

- 5.1 Parents/carers of students who are in receipt of the following support payments will, in addition to having school meals entitlement, also be entitled to request the remission of charges in full or part:
- Income Support;
 - Income based jobseekers allowance;
 - Child Tax Credit.
- 5.2 When arranging a chargeable activity such parent/carers may apply in confidence to the school for remission of charges in full or part. The headteacher in consultation with the LGB will be authorised to grant remission of charges.

6 Review of policy

The Charging & Remissions policy will be reviewed annually and be amended to agree with guidance by the DFE, ESFA and local Authority.