



Charges for School Activities

Legislation allows schools to charge for certain activities, which take place both inside and outside, school hours. These are the activities and materials for which you will be charged:

- Music tuition: individual tuition in playing a musical instrument, which is neither part of the syllabus for an approved public examination, nor part of the National Curriculum. Schools may charge for instrumental tuition given to groups of no more than four pupils.
- Ingredients and materials: ingredients and materials for practical subjects where parents have indicated in advance that they wish to receive the finished articles.
- Travel: the cost of travel when a pupil makes use of transport not provided by the authority or school, to travel direct from home to an activity approved of, but not provided by, the authority or school.
- Board and lodging: board and lodging will be charged in all cases where a school activity involves pupils in nights away from home.

Activities outside school hours

- A charge will be made for all non-residential activities, which take place wholly, or more than 50% outside school hours, where the child's participation has been agreed in advance by the parents. The charge will include the cost of travel, entrance fees, insurance, books, equipment and any staff (teaching or non-teaching) engaged specifically for the activity.
- Residential trips outside school hours - a residential trip is deemed to take place outside school hours if the number of 'missed' school sessions is less than half of the number of half days taken up by the trip. Charges will be made as described above.
- Public Examinations - charges are made for the entry of a pupil for a prescribed examination for which he/she has not been prepared by the school, or where the pupil entered for examinations in the same subject with two examination boards.
- Remission of charges - only parents who are in receipt of Income Support, Income based job seekers allowance, an income-related

employment and support allowance (this benefit was introduced on 27 October 2008); Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and Child Tax Credit, where the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and whose annual income (as assessed by HMRC) does not exceed £16,190 or the Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit are eligible for emission of charges. Remission of charges only applies to board and lodgings charges, which are levied directly by the LEA or the school and where they relate to activities, deemed to take place wholly or partly in school hours.

- Remission will not apply to such charges when they relate to activities wholly outside school hours, except if the activity is prescribed in a syllabus for a public examination, if it is prescribed by the National Curriculum or fulfils duties relating to Religious Education.
- Parents who have difficulty meeting any charges should discuss the matter in confidence with the Headteacher.

Refunds Policy

- The full contribution to an activity will be refunded if a child is absent due to illness (with the potential exception of residential courses).
- If a trip has to be cancelled parental contributions will be refunded.
- If contributions to an activity exceed the total cost a refund will be given, if excess is over £5 per child.
- Excess income less than £5 per child will be paid into school fund account.
- Excess of expenditure will be funded by school fund / PTFA

Voluntary Contribution

The School may ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of:

- Any activity that takes place during school hours
- School equipment
- General school funds.

Children of parents who are unable, or unwilling, to contribute may not be discriminated against. However, if there are insufficient voluntary contributions made to cover the cost of the trip, or activity, and there is no alternative method to make up the shortfall, then the school will cancel the activity.