

Willoughby Primary
School
'Learning for Life'



Charging for School Activities Policy

Section 457 of the Education Act 1996 requires each school governing body to draw up, and keep under review, its policies on:

- charging for school activities; and
- any remission arrangements.

Our policy has been drawn up with reference to the DfE Guidelines 'Charging for school activities' (October 2014).

No **charge** is made for any activity which takes place during school hours, including any materials, books, instruments, ingredients or other equipment (excluding clothing) provided in connection with the activity. However **Music provision**: A **charge is made** and a contract entered into by the Music tutor & parent of a child who chooses to participate in learning an instrument. (In accordance with the Guidelines.)

No **charge** is made for any transport provided to convey pupils between school sites, or between the school and any other place where educational provision has been arranged by the school or LA during school hours, e.g. swimming pools, off-site playing fields or sports centres, other schools under a link scheme.

For our residential visit, as it is deemed to take place during school hours, no **charge** is made **except** for board and lodging.

If a request for remission of charges is received and the school is not sure whether or not an individual pupil is eligible, the local education office will advise what documentation the school will need to check:

Voluntary contributions

The restrictions on charging for activities do not in any way prohibit a school from seeking voluntary contributions from parents for the benefit of the school or towards any school activities.

Any such contributions must, however, be genuinely voluntary. We therefore make it clear to parents that it is a **voluntary contribution**

Pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have contributed. **If an activity cannot take place without voluntary contributions, this will be made clear to parents.**

In our initial letter to parents we explain the nature of the proposed activity and its educational value. The letter indicates the contribution per pupil which will be required if the activity is to take place. It also emphasises that it is a **voluntary contribution**.

The activity may not take place if insufficient parents are able to support it (e.g. PGL Residential).

There is no limit to the level of voluntary contribution which parents or others can make towards school activities. A request for a contribution towards the cost of a school visit could, for example, include an element to cover the cost of subsidising pupils from low income families or the costs incurred by accompanying teachers.

There is nothing in the Education Act, which prevents schools from asking parents to **pay for the cost of any damage resulting from a pupil's misbehaviour. Willoughby Primary School reserves the right to seek such payments.**

Equality Statement: The Governors of Willoughby Primary School recognises equality does not mean treating everyone the same; it means treating people fairly, with respect, having regard for their rights and wishes. Sometimes this means giving people extra help so they have the same chances. (See Equality Policy).

The policies determined by the governing body will be kept under review.

To be reviewed by the governing body on a bi-annual basis.

From Jan 2018* move to a 3 yearly review unless significant changes are announced.

Signed

Chair of Governors

Date of policy May 2009

Date of Reviews: Jan 2012/Jan 2014/Jan 2016/Jan 2018/Jan2020/Jan2022/Jan 2024