

Warren Farm Primary School



Charging Policy 2022

Date of Last review	13/10/2022
Date agreed by governors	10/11/2022
Date of next review	10/11/2023

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Charging Policy

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1. Introduction

This charging policy has been compiled in line with DfES requirements and in accordance with s457 of the Education Act, 1996.

2. School Trips

2.1 Day Trips

A minimum voluntary contribution of £5 to a maximum of £10 will be requested per trip at the discretion of the Head Teacher. This is to cover the cost of transport to and from the venue (also refer to section 7). No charge will be levied in respect of admission to venues where the trip is linked to the curriculum.

2.2 Residential trips – Essential

For residential trips which are essential to the National Curriculum, statutory RE or in preparation for prescribed examinations, a charge will be levied for board and lodging to a maximum of £100.

2.3 Residential trips - Non-essential

For residential trips which are not essential to the National Curriculum, statutory RE or in preparation for prescribed examinations:

- i) if the amount of school time on the trip is less than half of the total time of the trip, a charge will be levied up to the full cost of the trip.
- ii) if the amount of school time on the trip is half or more of the total time of the trip, a charge will be levied for board and lodging.

3. Materials & Textbooks

Where a pupil or parent wishes to retain items produced as a result of art, craft and design, or design and technology, a charge may be levied for the cost of the materials used. In the case of Food Technology, pupils usually provide their own ingredients, but if the pupil forgets, the school provides the ingredients and levies a charge. Textbooks are provided free of charge, but in some subjects, additional revision guides are available, for which a charge is made.

4. Music Tuition

The school levies no charge in respect of individual music tuition provided by Birmingham Music Service during school hours.

5. Activities Outside School Hours

No charge will be made for activities outside school hours that are part of the National Curriculum. We may charge for specialist after-school clubs but that this will only cover up to the cost of the club itself.

6. Damage/Loss to Property

7.1 A charge will be levied in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of school property (including premises, furniture, equipment, books or materials), the charge to be the cost of replacement or repair, or such lower cost as the Headteacher may decide.

7.2 A charge will be levied in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of property (including premises, furniture, equipment, books or materials) belonging to a third party, where the cost has been recharged to the school. The charge to be the cost of replacement or repair, or such lower cost as the Headteacher may decide.

7. Voluntary Contributions

Where the school cannot levy charges, and it is not possible to make these additional activities within the resources ordinarily available to the school, the school may request or invite parents to make a contribution towards the cost of the trip. Pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution in response to the request or invitation. However, where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, then it will be cancelled.

8. Lettings

The school will make its facilities available to outside users at a charge of at least the cost of providing the facilities. The scale of charges will be determined annually by the Finance Committee and is available from the School Business Manager (see Lettings Policy)

9. Other charges

The Head Teacher, Finance and Trustees Committee or Governing Body may levy charges for miscellaneous services up to the cost of providing such services e.g. for providing a copy of an OFSTED report.

10. Remissions Policy

10.1 If the parent/guardian of a pupil is in receipt of income support, income based jobseekers' allowance, support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; or Child tax credit (providing that they do not also receive Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, assessed by the Inland Revenue, that does not exceed £14,155), charges in respect of board and lodging will be remitted in full. (NB/ this threshold can be altered during the year by Government directive).

10.2 The Head Teacher, Finance and Trustees Committee or Governing Body may remit in full or part charges in respect of a pupil, if it feels it is reasonable in the circumstances.

10.3 The Head Teacher, Finance and Trustees Committee or Governing Body may decide not to levy charges in respect of a particular activity, if it feels it is reasonable in the circumstances.