

West Earham Infant and Nursery School
Charging Policy including Funded Early Years Provision

Charges for School Activities

Legislation allows schools to charge for certain activities which take place both inside and outside school hours. This policy will be available on the school website. Below are the activities and materials for which you may be charged:

1. **Music tuition**

- a. Vocal or Instrumental tuition, which is not part of the syllabus for an approved public examination, part of the National Curriculum or provided under the first access to the key stage 2 Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Programme.
- b. Charges may be made for tuition provided individually or to groups of any size, provided the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent.
- c. No charge may be made in respect of a pupil who is looked after by the local authority.

2. **Ingredients and materials**

- a. Ingredients and materials for practical subjects where parents have indicated in advance that they wish to receive the finished articles.

3. **Travel**: Schools **cannot** charge for:

- a. Transporting registered pupils to or from school premises, where the local education authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport.
- b. Transporting registered pupils to other premises where arrangements have been made for pupils to be educated.
- c. Transport enabling a pupil to meet an examination requirement where prepared for that examination at the school.

4. **Board and lodging**

- a. Board and lodging will be charged in all cases where a school activity involves pupils in nights away from home. The charge must not exceed the actual cost.

5. **Activities outside school hours**

- a. A charge can 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 can include the cost of travel, entrance fees, insurance, books, equipment and any staff (teaching or non-teaching) engaged specifically for the activity.

6. **Residential trips**

- a. A residential trip is deemed to take place outside school hours if the number of 'missed' school sessions is less than 50% of the number of half days taken up by the trip. For example: Pupils are away from noon on Wednesday to 9pm on Sunday. This counts as 9 half days including 5 school sessions, so the visit is deemed to have taken place during school hours.
- b. Schools **cannot** charge for:
 - i. Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours.
 - ii. Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the national curriculum, part of a syllabus for a public examination the pupil is being prepared for at the school or part of religious education.
 - iii. Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit.

- c. Schools can ask parents for voluntary contributions towards the cost of:
 - i. Any activity taking place during school hours
 - ii. School Equipment
 - iii. General School Funds
 - d. Children of parents unwilling or unable to contribute may not be discriminated against. If insufficient voluntary contributions are received, with no alternative method to make up the shortfall, the activity should be cancelled. It is advisable to make parents aware from the outset of the possible cancellation of an activity if insufficient voluntary contributions are received.
7. 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.
 8. Remission of charges - only parents who are in receipt of Universal Credit (when fully rolled out), Income Support, Working Families' Credit, Disabled Person's Tax Credit or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance are eligible for remission of charges. Remission of charges only applies to board and lodgings charges, which are levied directly by the LA or the school and where they relate to activities, deemed to take place wholly or partly in school hours.
 9. 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.
 10. Parents who have difficulty meeting any charges should discuss the matter in confidence with the Headteacher.
 11. The school offers After School Clubs for parents who wish their child to participate. Attendance is voluntary but payment is required prior to attendance. These are currently charged at £1 per club per week and paid on a termly basis.
 12. Useful Links:
 - a. Learning Outside the Classroom guidance: <http://www.lotc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/GCharging-Policy-Updated-PDF-1APR09.pdf>
 - b. Latest DfE guidelines: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/706830/Charging_for_school_activities.pdf
 - c. Outdoor Education Advisors Panel guidance: <https://oeapng.info/download/1082/>
 13. Charges associated with Early Years Funded Nursery sessions:
 - a. Government funding is intended to cover the cost of deliver of 15hours a week of free, high quality, childcare only. Therefore families are responsible for providing nappies, wipes and any other items for individual children. Snack and Milk will be provided during the session by the Nursery. We will not charge any top up fee's
 - b. A deposit payment is not charged by our Nursery. However a late collection charge of £5 per 15 minutes is made if a child is collected beyond the scheduled pick up time.
 - c. The Nursery also offers provision for fee paying families however this the provision for these families and those entitled to free sessions will be delivered consistently so that all children will receive the same quality and access to provision. For charging for families who are not entitled to Early Education Funding please see Nursery Fee's Policy

Approval

This policy has been reviewed in line with the 2010 Equality Act and Public Sector Equality Act. Due regard has been given to Equality.

This policy will be adopted in **June 2018**. The date of the next formal review will be **June 2019** and every thereafter, unless statutory legislation changes.

Policy approved by the **Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee** of West Earlham Infant and Nursery School.