



Wyken Croft
Primary School

WYKEN CROFT CHARGING POLICY

1. Introduction

The Governing Body encourages and supports the provision of activities which augment the curriculum such as visits, outdoor/offsite education and music tuition. These have a beneficial effect for the child and the school community.

The Education Reform Act 1988 states that schools may ask for voluntary contributions to support school activities. When an outing, visit or similar activity is being planned, parents are given details of the activity, its purpose or educational value, and the level of contributions which would be required to enable the activity to take place.

Governors cannot enforce payment but voluntary charges may be requested for these additional activities, whether on or off site. If the activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions, this must be made clear to parents at the outset. The Governing Body or Headteacher will also make it clear to parents that there is no obligation to make any contribution.

It is important that no child should be excluded from an activity simply because his or her parents/carers are unwilling or unable to pay.

2. Voluntary Contributions

When organising school trips or visits that enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions and the trip is not financially viable, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

If a parent/carer wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we ask them to make an appointment with the member of staff organising the trip to discuss the concern. All children are given the opportunity to participate fully in the trip or activity. Where appropriate, the school will subsidise costs in order to support the visit.

3. Residential Visits

Residential visits are optional. If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging, additional travel expenses and any evening or extra curriculum activities while on the visit. Parents who receive state benefits are offered a reduced charge. No child will be prevented from participating in any trip due to financial reasons.

4. Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5. Occasional visits of performers or presenters into school or special materials to support a school activity

The school may choose to request a contribution to the costs and or expenses of bringing an outside writer, artist speaker or performer into school. A statement will also be made that the activity may not proceed if insufficient income is generated to cover costs.

The school will provide all materials and equipment (but not clothing) required for the purpose of the curriculum. The charge in such cases will not be more than the actual cost of materials and will be declared in advance to parents.

6. Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum.

7. After School Activities run by outside organisations

The school offers additional activities after school. Qualified coaches/tutors, who are not members of the school staff, may run and organise these sessions. They make a small charge for these sessions.

REMISSIONS

Provision is made within the budget to offer remissions. In cases of hardship a full remission may be given. This would be at the discretion of the Headteacher, after consultation with staff.

The remaining level of remissions would be used to reduce the cost of the trip to parents/carers/guardians in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income bases Job Seekers Allowance
- Working Tax Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999

The level of the remission would depend on the number of parents/carers claiming

Policy Updated : September 2016

Approved by Governors: