

Wistanstow School - CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES POLICY

Education for registered pupils in maintained schools should be free of charge if it takes place in schools hours (i.e. the hours when the school is in session not counting the midday break) or takes place outside school hours but is a part of the National Curriculum or statutory religious education.

Activities in School Hours

The governors' wish the many activities provided during school time to enhance delivery and understanding of the curriculum to continue. The activities may be funded by voluntary contributions from the parents, PTA or school budget.

These contributions will be genuinely voluntary and it must be made quite clear to parents that there is no obligation to contribute and that pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution in response to the request.

However it should also be made clear to the parents that these types of activity can only continue if funded by voluntary contributions and that such activities cannot normally take place without substantial parental support.

If there is less than 100% response a decision will be made by the Head Teacher whether to pursue the activity. If the activity is to continue, the shortfall in contributions will be met by School Funds or the PTA

Residential visits or activities taking place wholly or mainly out of school hours

The governors will allow the full cost of the following to be charged:- (a) a pupil's travel; (b) a pupil's board and lodging; (c) materials, books, instruments and other equipment; (d) entrance fees to museums, castles, theatres etc. (e) insurance; (f) the provision of teaching staff engaged specifically for the purpose of providing the activity, if charged.

Any parent in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (not Contribution Based Job Seekers Allowance) or Child Tax Credit (subject to Free School Meals limits) and State Pension Credit will be able to receive partial remission of the costs. This should be accounted for in the annual schools budget set by the governors.

Individual/Small Group Music Instrumental Teaching

These activities may take place both during the school day and outside school hours. The governors will allow a charge to be made for tuition provided individually or to a group in a musical instrument (not vocal tuition) when the tuition is provided by a teacher not currently employed by the school for that purpose and the content of the lessons is over and above the requirements of the National Curriculum.

Instrumental teachers will keep an attendance register. All pupils are expected to attend at the time allocated on the timetable. If a pupil is present at school but unable to attend a lesson he/she must inform the instrumental teacher at the earliest opportunity. Repeated failure to attend lessons without agreement of the Head Teacher may result in the withdrawal of the pupil's entitlement to instrumental tuition that term, without refund.

When a pupil's progress falls short of expectations the parents will be informed. Failure to make the required progress following this may result in the entitlement to lessons being reviewed.

School or County-owned instruments on loan become the responsibility of the pupil's parents/guardians. Parents/guardians are therefore strongly recommended to insure instruments for all risks.

Pupils who use school instruments will be encouraged to purchase their own when they reach a suitable standard to free school or County instruments for new pupils.

The school will not make a profit from instrumental tuition charges and no child will be charged any more than the actual cost to the school of providing that pupil's tuition. Parents will be invoiced at the beginning of each individual term for the lessons for that term.