

This policy is informed by our Trust's vision of inspiring all - pupils, staff and our communities - to believe in their own ability in order for them to achieve the best possible outcomes, both academically and socially. By living by our values of being innovative, responsible and caring, we create powerful learning communities - positively impacting all of the Weaver Trust community.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 All the education we provide for children from Reception to Year Six during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. Refer to Nursery Charging and Remission policy for under-fives provision. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

2. Voluntary Contributions

- 2.1 When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the Trust invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, 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.
- 2.2 If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request.
- 2.3 The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which require contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:
- Visits to museums;
 - Sporting activities which require transport expenses;
 - Outdoor adventure activities;
 - Visits to or by a theatre company;
 - School trips abroad;
 - Musical events.

3. Residential Visits

- 3.1 If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we ask for a contribution to meet the cost of the travel expenses and to cover the costs of board and lodging. Parents who receive some state benefits will receive a subsidy for this charge. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways.

4. Music Tuition

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

- 4.2 There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. The tutors make a charge for these lessons, which are paid for half-termly in advance. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5. Swimming

- 5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children from Y2 upwards. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we seek the parents' written permission for their children to take part. In addition to this we ask for a voluntary contribution to meet the cost of the transport.

6. Remissions

- 6.1 Where parents are in receipt of income support or family credit, the Local Governing Body will offer to remit a proportion of the cost for any residential activity, which is deemed to take place in school hours, or where it forms part of the syllabus for the National Curriculum, wherever possible, and within the constraints of the budget.