



Charges for School Activities

In accordance with Sections 450 – 461 of the Education Act 1996 and DfE ‘Charging for Activities (2014), the Governing Body make no charge for education or educational activities provided during school hours as part of the published curriculum. However, the Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities can make towards the personal and social education of pupils. The Governing Body therefore reserve the right to levy charges for the following activities arranged by the school, which will not exceed the actual cost of the activity.

1. “Optional Extra” activities outside school hours.

The full cost for activities including residential visits, which take place out of school hours may be charged to parents provided that they are not a necessary part of the National Curriculum, an examination syllabus, or religious education, where no charge will be made. In fixing the charge the school may take account of the costs for travel, lodging for supervisory staff, and associated supply cover.

2. Residential visits partly or fully during school hours.

No charge will be made for such visits other than board and lodging charges. The Governors recognise that they will provide full remission from the charge for board and lodging to pupils whose families are in receipt of free school meals or the following:

- Universal Credit
 - Provided that you have an annual net income of no more than £7400
 - This is assessed by earnings from up to 3 years of your most recent assessment periods

Where activities are organised and charged by a third party e.g. independent tour operator, the school may provide for full or partial remission of charges.

3. Music

If pupils make use of an instrument provided by the school or the Authority, a charge may be made in respect of the maintenance of the instrument in accordance with the published scale of charges. A charge may also be made in respect of the cost of tuition. Pupils in receipt of free school meals are entitled to free hire of an instrument and tuition fees for the Local authority music service if they wish.

4. Materials for practical lessons

Voluntary contributions or provision of goods in kind may be requested from parents for materials for practical lessons (Design Technology, Food Technology or other subject areas as the Governing Body may from time to time determine), if parents indicate in advance a wish to own the finished product.

5. Visits in support of the curriculum which are desirable but not essential

The Governing Body recognises that the school may wish to offer opportunities for pupils to broaden the range of experience in connection with certain curriculum areas during school hours. Such opportunities might comprise an educational visit to an historic site, a theatre visit, work in an art gallery or museum, or use of swimming pools.

The Governing Body's policy is to encourage the school to work jointly with parents in this respect, and invite voluntary contributions from parents, either generally to school funds or specifically for certain activities, in accordance with section 460 of the 1996 Act.

In encouraging such co-operation, the Governing Body is anxious to ensure that parents are made aware that any such contributions are voluntary and that pupils will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution.

The Governing Body recognises that the viability of visits in support of the curriculum, which are desirable but not essential, depends upon the level of voluntary financial support received from parents and delegate to the Head teacher responsibility for decisions in relation to the viability of such visits.

6. Activities schools may make charges for

The school may charge for the following items, where offered:

- a nominal charge to cover the cost of materials for lunchtime and afterschool clubs
- Wilful or malicious damage to equipment or property
- Charges for use of the school premises (see Lettings policy) The charge is based on the actual cost of delivering the service or the item and will include all related costs such as caretaking, energy costs and insurance. The charges for each activity will be determined by the governing body and be reviewed annually.

7. Wraparound Childcare

The school aims to support parents through the provision of a wraparound childcare service, 'Wrapstars', which operates before and after school and on certain days and times during the school holiday periods. The charges made for this facility are determined by the school Governing body and are set at a competitive level in order to cover the running costs. The current charge for wraparound childcare is available on the school website or from the school office.

8. Admission to Nursery

From September 2021 we are able to provide parents of eligible nursery admission with two options.

Option 1) Part time, 15 hours (statutory FOC), morning sessions only 8.45am-11.45am.

Option 2) Up to 30 hours, 5 morning sessions (statutory 15 hours) plus additional afternoon top up sessions making the Nursery day 8.45am-3pm. These afternoons would need to be booked 1 term in advance and in agreement with our 30 hours' terms and conditions. To find the current cost for the top up sessions please contact the school office or visit the school website.

*If you are eligible for the 30 hours free childcare then this CAN be taken up with Morpeth First School.

The Governing Body may, from time to time, review and amend the categories of activity for which charges can be made.

Reviewed 2024

