

ALBURY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHARGING POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The Education Reform Act 1988 and DES Circular have changed the arrangements for charging for school activities. In general, charges cannot be made for admitting pupils to maintained schools and the education provided during school hours must be free. School hours are those hours when the school is actually in session and do not include breaks (including the middle of the day). The exception to this are music and some practical activities.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This school invites contributions for the benefit of the school and for school activities.

School activities for which contributions are invited include:-

- swimming
- school day trips
- workshops and visitors
- school journeys

Activities will continue provided sufficient support is forthcoming. Sufficient is deemed to be 90%.

Swimming:

Requests for voluntary contributions are made during the term swimming takes place. The amount requested is calculated to cover coach fares, entry fees, tuition and associated costs.

School day trips:

The amount requested for the day trips will be calculated to cover coach fares, entry fee and insurance.

Workshops and Visitors:

These include visiting musicians, theatre groups, story tellers and other organisations.

School Journeys:

School journeys involving overnight stays fall outside the aspect of activities outside of school hours as they are made up of school hours and non-school hours time. The amount requested for school journeys is calculated to cover coach fares, board and lodging, entrance to visits, specialised activity instruction and insurance.

MUSIC TUITION

Governors charge parents for tuition in playing a musical instrument, including music books or when instruments are purchased or hired from the school. whether in or out of school hours unless it is required by the National Curriculum.

MATERIALS FOR PRACTICAL SUBJECTS

Governors charge for, or ask parents to provide, any ingredients and materials needed for practical subjects like cookery, design and technology, art and craft when children are keeping the finished product.

ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS

Governors will charge for optional extra activities that take place wholly or mainly outside school hours, but which are not required in order to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum or Religious Education. Participation in any such activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to meet any such charges that are made.

Governors will charge for board and lodging on residential visits.

Governors will invite contributions towards other costs which apply to such visits.

Governors will invite contributions towards all the costs involved in non-residential visits.

ACTIVITIES NOT RUN BY THE SCHOOL OR THE L.E.A.

If parents wish their child to take part in an activity which is arranged by an organisation other than the LEA or the Governing Body which is likely to occur during school hours, then they must request permission from the school for their child to be absent. The organisation may charge parents for the services provided.

EXAMINATIONS

Governors will charge parents the cost of entering for a public examination not prescribed in regulations, and for preparing the pupil for such an examination.

Governors will charge parents the cost of any re-scrutiny of the examination results that has been requested by the parents.

COST OF DAMAGE OR LOSS

Governors will charge the parents the cost of damage and loss as a result of pupils' misbehaviour. Lost and damaged books and equipment will be charged at the current replacement value. Broken windows and damaged furniture will be charged at the full cost of replacement.

REMISSION

In cases of hardship, Governors are willing to help those parents who cannot manage to pay a full economic contribution for chargeable school activities. To be considered for remission of fees, application should be made to the Head.

In the case of School Journey, where there is hardship, the Governors have agreed that the school will pay for one school journey only for any pupil.