



Charging Policy

INTRODUCTION

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

When organising school trips or visits, which 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, 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 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. The school provides this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities organized by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- musical events.

RESIDENTIAL VISITS

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 or travel expenses. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Parents who receive state benefits are exempt from payment.

RESIDENTIAL VISITS – NON ESSENTIAL

For residential which are not essential to the National Curriculum:

- I. if the amount of school time on the trip is less than half the total time of the trip, a charge will be levied up to the full cost of the trip
- II. if the amount of school time on the trip is half or more of the total time on the trip, a charge will be levied for board and lodgings

The Local Authority provides music tuition and will charge for individual music tuition and group music tuition up to and including 4 persons, if the teaching is not an essential part of the National Curriculum.

CLASSROOM MATERIALS

No charge will be made for material or equipment. However, for certain practical activities (e.g. technology or cookery) parents may be asked to provide materials or ingredients on a voluntary basis. Where parents would like to keep the finished product, the school reserves the right to charge for the cost of materials.

The Charging Policy will be reviewed by Governors every two years or sooner if necessary.

Finance Committee

Monitored and approved annually in the Parklea Finance Manual