

Langtree Community School

Charges for School Activities Policy

Rationale

At Langtree Community School, we place a high value on activities which enhance the education of our pupils. Some parents are willing and able to pay a contribution towards these activities while others are not. We have formulated this policy in order to ensure equal opportunities for all pupils and to ensure that there is clarity over which items we provide free of charge and those for which there will be a charge.

The Governing Body have agreed the following:

Day trips

- During the school day all activity that are a necessary part of the National Curriculum plus Religious Education will be provided free of charge. This includes any materials, equipment and transport.
- No charges will be imposed for day trips which a class is planning to take, nor for attendance at performances or workshops by visiting groups. If required, eg in the case of admission charges, voluntary contributions may be invited from parents and carers and a suggested amount is stated.
- When seeking a voluntary contribution, it is made clear that there is no obligation to contribute and that pupils will not be treated differently according to whether their parents have made a contribution.
- No child shall be left out because their parents or carers are unable or unwilling to make such a contribution.
- If the trip cannot take place unless there is sufficient help from parents, this is made clear in the initial information letter sent to parents.
- Each year, the Governors will set aside an amount of the budget to cover the cost of coach travel in order to subsidise school outings.
- Children whose parents are in receipt of certain types of benefit * are entitled to be provided by the school with a packed mid-day meal, if this is appropriate.

Residential trips

- The school day is defined as 9.05 to 12.15 and 1.15 to 3.30. For outings which take place mostly outside the school day charges may be made.
- Charges for board and lodgings can be imposed on participants, with the exception of those whose parents or carers are in receipt of certain benefits * as these children are entitled to have those costs met by the school.
- Teachers planning such visits should consider the previous point when establishing the feasibility of the trip.

- Parents are informed at the outset of likely costs and of whether facilities to pay by instalment exist.
- Governors will set aside an amount each year to subsidise such a trip.
- The PTA has agreed to subsidise such a trip bi-annually. Details of this and the subsidy above are communicated to parents at the outset.

Music Tuition

- Charges can be made by third parties for musical tuition, which is provided in addition to class music lessons. (e.g. Music for Schools Foundation) .

Extended Schools Provision

Charges will be made for any childcare provision offered outside the normal school day i.e. before 9.05am for any children, or after 12.05pm for Nursery children. These charges are currently:

Before School Club: £2.50 per child, £2.00 per sibling per session

Nursery Lunch Club: £3.00 per child bringing a packed lunch from home; £5.20 per child booking a school meal.

Charges are for whole sessions. There is no discount if a child only uses part of a session. Fees and bookings should be made and paid in advance.

Calculating charges

When charges are made, these are based on actual costs incurred, divided by the number of pupils participating. Those contribute will not be called on to subsidise those who can't or won't.

In cases of genuine hardship, parents/carers are invited to approach the headteacher in confidence and any support agreed will be financed through other sources of revenue.

The principles of Best Value will be applied when planning activities that incur costs to the school and/or charges to parents.

* Benefits: apply entitlement criteria used for Free School Meal applications.