



CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

At Sir John Moore School the education provided during school hours is free.

However, we also strongly believe in the value of a range of extra activities which enrich the education we provide for our pupils e.g. day trips, theatre trips, residential visits. Unfortunately, with a limited school budget, it is not possible to provide many of these activities free of charge. Parents may be asked to pay a voluntary contribution towards the cost of such a trip if they wish their child to take part.

Where this is necessary the school will:

1. Notify parents of the amount of the voluntary contribution necessary for the event to take place.
2. Notify parents in advance of the trip, giving the opportunity to pay by instalments if the amount is large.
3. Notify parents of alternative arrangements if they do not wish their child to take part in an event
4. Will provide financial accounts of the activity to parents if requested.
5. Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and there is no way to make up the shortfall, then it must be cancelled.

The Governors are aware of the financial burden this places on parents and will aim to keep such costs as low as possible. There will also be occasions when the cost of trips are subsidised by the Friends to ensure maximum participation is possible. To ensure fairness these subsidies will take the format of reduced costs for everyone taking part rather than particular subsidies for individual children.

There will be no charge for curriculum activities such as sewing or cooking.

Exceptions to these general principles are:

Music Tuition:- the Law allows for charges to be made for teaching individual pupils or groups of up to four children to play a musical instrument. Details of this type of tuition at Sir John Moore is available from the school office.

Optional extras e.g. lunchtime or after school clubs - further details of these are available from the school office.

In addition to free provision of education during the school day, pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium funding (whose parents are receiving: Income Support; Income Based Job Seekers Allowance; support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; or Child Tax Credit (providing that they do not also receive Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, assessed by the HM Revenue and customs, that does not exceed £16,190), or a guaranteed State Pension) will not be charged.

The Headteacher undertakes that parents will be told of the right to claim free activities if they are receiving these benefits.