

Charging Policy 2019



Charging for School Activities - Overview

There are a variety of situations and activities where charging for school activities may or may not be appropriate.

No charge can be made for admitting pupils to maintained schools. Education provided during school hours (the time when school is in session) must be free (with one exception relating to musical instrument tuition - see below).

All 3 and 4-year-olds are entitled to three free hours of education per day

Charges:

- charges may be made for teaching an individual or groups of up to four, to play a musical instrument if the teaching is not part of the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil
- Voluntary contributions may be requested to make school funds go further. Requests will make it quite clear that contributions are voluntary and that children of parents who do not contribute will not be treated any differently. No pupil will be left out of an activity because their parents cannot or will not contribute of any kind.
- Generally, requests for contributions will be kept as low as possible and rarely exceed £15. The school always subsidises all trips and will inform parents that this is the case.
- Parents who wish to go on trips will also be asked to contribute towards the cost of transport and entrance fee, so that contributions are not subsidising parents.

Special rules apply to a range of situations including:

- activities not run by the school or LA
- education outside school hours
- education partly during school hours

Guidance

The *Guide to the Law for School Governors*, Chapter 16 (see Background Reading below) provides guidance for all schools on charging for School Activities.

The *GovernorNet* article on entitlement for remission of charges provides information on changes to the law relating to board and lodging costs.

The Law

Aspects of charging for school activities are covered by the following statutes:

Education Act, 1996

Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (part VI)

Education (Residential Trips) (Prescribed Tax Credits) (England) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/381)

Signed: