

Fort Royal Community Primary School

Policy of Charging for School Activities

The School wishes to provide for all pupils the best possible educational opportunities available within the funds allocated by the Education Authority. The law states very clearly that education during normal school hours is to be free of any compulsory charge to parents and the school warmly endorses that principle and is committed to uphold the legal requirements.

It is recognised, however, that many educationally valuable activities have been and will continue to be dependent on financial contributions in whole or in part from parents/carers. Without that financial support, the school would find it quite impossible to maintain the quality and breadth of the educational programme provided for pupils. The School's concern is to keep financial contributions to a reasonable minimum and to ensure as far as possible that all children are able to take part, irrespective of their circumstances.

The law recognises that charges may be made to parents in certain defined circumstances - provided that each school has identified the activities for which charges will be made and has explained the basis on which charges may be reduced or waived for certain pupils. The Governing Body of Fort Royal School has decided that until further notice, its policy will be as follows:

Day Visits

For visits occurring during school time, the school will invite a voluntary contribution from parents to meet costs. For visits outside school time parents will be charged for all allowable costs.* Charges may be waived or reduced for children whose parents make application to the Head.

Residential visits during School time

The school will invite voluntary contributions from parents to meet costs other than children's board and lodgings. Parents/carers will be charged for the full cost of children's board and lodgings. No charge for board and lodgings will be made for children whose parents are receiving Income Support or Family Credit. Charges may be waived or reduced for other children whose parents make application to the Head.

Residential visits outside School time

Parents/carers will be charged for the full cost of the visit, including all allowable costs* and board and lodgings. Charges may be waived or reduced for children whose parents make application to the Head.

*Allowable costs include:

- a. The pupil's travel and subsistence costs,
- b. Non-teaching staff,
- c. Costs of teaching staff where separately engaged under a contract for services for the visit or activity,
- d. Entrance fees to museums, castles, theatres etc,
- e. Insurance costs.