

West End Academy



## **Charging Policy**

**Reviewed: September 2024**

**Next review date: September 2025**

## **Rationale**

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

## **Purpose**

- To ensure that each child has a fair and equal access to a full and varied curriculum.
- To ensure that school can afford to provide access to a variety of enrichment activities.

## **Broad Guidelines**

- When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to make a voluntary contribution to the cost of the trip. Insufficient voluntary contributions may mean we have to cancel. If a trip/visit 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 non - residential school trip or visit, which is part of the school curriculum but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, if the trip/visit goes ahead, we do allow the child to participate fully. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. School provides this information on request.
- When organising a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we calculate the costs and share it equally between the numbers of children taking part.
- The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as optional extras. This list is not exhaustive: visits to museums and places of historic interest, activities which require transport expenses, visits to the theatre and musical events.
- All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Year 4. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity.

- Extended school use: Children will be charged at cost price for after-school clubs, including those run by school staff. However, where cost could prevent a club operating, which would greatly benefit the children, then the headteacher will decide whether the value to the children outweighs cost considerations. Choir and representative teams will be exempt. The infrequent costs of transport for these groups will be paid from school fund.
- We make a charge to cover the costs, when qualified coaches, who are not members of the school staff, run and organise after-school clubs. We do not charge children if they are transported by bus to an extra-curricular activity.

### **Pupil Premium children**

Funding provided by the government for these children is used to subsidise or fully pay for trips, visits and other activities provided by the school to enhance the children's education.

### **Conclusion**

Subsidy schemes may operate to target groups or individual children (e.g. after-school clubs). The senior leadership team and governors will approve who benefits from this support.