



The Cathedral School of St Peter and St John

*Growing together within God's loving family we support, challenge
and inspire each other to become the best that we can be.*

Charging Policy

Last updated: 4th March 2020
Last reviewed: April 2024

1 Introduction

This Charging Policy informs staff and parents about charging for School activities. It conforms to the requirements of the guidance detailed in 'A Guide to the Law for School Governors.'

- 1.1 All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual or group music tuition.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 When organising school educational visit which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the visit. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel an educational visit. If an educational visit goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.
- 2.2 If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school educational visit or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each visit is funded. The school provides this information on request.
- 2.3 The following is a list of additional activities organized by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:
- visits to museums;
 - sporting activities which require transport expenses;
 - outdoor adventure activities;
 - visits to the theatre;
 - school trips abroad;
 - musical events.
- 2.4 The school may permit organisations to charge parents when such an organisation is acting independently of the School or the LA, to arrange an activity to take place during school hours and parents want their children to join in the activity.
- 2.5 The school may charge for activities (optional extras), when these activities are not necessarily part of the National Curriculum.
- 2.6 Parents are asked to make a contribution towards replacing damaged or lost school property caused willfully or negligently by their children.

3 Residential visits

The school will not charge for:

- Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours.
- Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the national curriculum.
- Supply teachers to cover for teachers accompanying pupils on visits.

The school may charge for board and lodging, but the charge will not exceed the actual cost. Parents will be exempt from board and lodging costs if they can prove that they are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided that they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit – if they apply on or after 1 April 2018, their household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits they receive)

4 Music tuition

- 4.1** All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2** There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

- 5.1** The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons. School may ask for a voluntary donation towards transport costs for this.