



Charging for School Activities

The four principles underlying the provisions on charging

The governors of Marlborough School accept that:

- education in school is free
- activities offered wholly or mainly during normal school teaching time is available to all pupils regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost
- there is no statutory requirement to charge for any form of education, but that the school has the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours
- the school has the right to invite voluntary contributions to support any activities organized by the school, whether during or outside school hours

There are a number of activities which will only take place if parental contributions are available but no child will be excluded from any activity organized by the school because of the liability or unwillingness of their parents to pay such a contribution.

Optional visits wholly or mainly outside school hours

The school will charge the full cost of visits which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours and to set aside monies to cover the cost for those parents who wish their child to go on the visit but who are unable or unwilling to pay. It is the intention of the governing body to provide a School Visit Support Fund for educational activities, the subsidy to be drawn either from the delegated budget or through a charitable donation. For social activities the subsidy would be taken from the school's private funds.

Visits wholly or mainly during school hours

The school invites voluntary contributions toward the cost of visits which take place wholly or mainly during school hours whether or not they are provided as part of the school curriculum or religious education. Again, the governing body will provide a School Visit Support Fund for educational activities and set aside private funds for social activities. The cost of providing for pupils, who choose not to go on a visit which takes place during school time, will be met by the school.

Residential visits

The school charges the full cost of board and lodging on residential visits. Where pupils are in receipt of or entitled to free school meals, board and lodging charges are remitted, and the cost met from within the school's funds. If there are insufficient allocated funds available to provide a subsidy it may be necessary to review the viability of the visit.

Individual musical instrument tuition

Tuition is provided through the Cornwall Music Service by peripatetic teachers and charges made to pupils concerned in line with local authority policy.

Charges for ingredients, materials and equipment

Marlborough School provides ingredients, materials and equipment needed for the delivery of the curriculum. When appropriate, parents are encouraged to contribute in cash, or in kind, on a voluntary basis. The school may charge for, or invite parents to supply, ingredients, materials and equipment if parents have indicated in advance a wish to own the finished product.

Charges for breakages and fines

The school will ask parents to pay for any wilful damage to equipment or property caused by their child but will cover costs arising from accidental damage or loss.

Recovery of unpaid charges

Sums payable by parents to which they have agreed, or for board and lodging, are recoverable as civil debts. The governors will balance the cost of recovering such charges in this way against the sums involved. To avoid this necessity, where possible we request payment in advance of all voluntary contributions or permissible charges for board and lodging and trips undertaken outside school hours.