

POLICY ON CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

1. Aim

To ensure that all pupils have access to appropriate curricular and extra curricular activities.

2. Rationale

Somerton keeps charges to a minimum, subsidising as often as possible the cost of visits, and can in certain circumstances access funds from the Parent Teacher Association and charity awards. This option is at the discretion of the Headteacher in consultation with the Governing Body.

3. Policy

The following policy falls in line with the Isle of Wight Council's policy. Reference can be made to the fuller policy by request.

a. Residential Visits

The cost of board and lodging will be charged to the school, at the actual cost for each participating child, for residential visits taken wholly or mainly during school hours. The same will apply to residential visits out of school hours where the visit is provided as part of a syllabus. All other residential visits may be treated as optional.

b. Charges met by Others

Parents may be expected to meet charges levied by others where these arise in connection with normal school activities including: train, bus, ferry charges, entrance fees to museums etc. They may voluntarily contribute to optional trips, enabling that activity to take place. Pupils who receive free school meals will always have their cost of board and lodging paid by the school.

The school should provide materials for practical subjects e.g. Design and Technology and Art, but if parents want to own the finished product a charge in cash or in kind can be made. The school will provide ingredients for cooking where pupils are not in a valid position to provide their own.

Costs for music tuition is the responsibility of parents and should be paid in advance.

c. Clothing

The school may require parents to provide items of clothing to support the curriculum e.g. cookery aprons or football boots.

d.. Voluntary Contributions

Voluntary contributions may be sought from parents towards the cost of any activity taking place during school hours. Contributions must be voluntary and children may not be excluded from an activity, or disadvantaged by it, if parents do not wish to fund the activity. However, if there are not sufficient voluntary contributions a trip or planned activity, which is not essential to the delivery of the curriculum, may be cancelled.

Reviewed October 2006

To be reviewed October 2008