



ALMOND HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL
GOVERNING BODY

CHARGING POLICY

FULL GOVERNING BODY	MAY 2019
DATE FOR REVIEW	MAY 2020

ALMOND HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL CHARGING POLICY

Purpose

The school is committed to ensuring equal access to the curriculum for all pupils. The policy for charging for school activities by the Governors of Almond Hill Junior School is as follows:-

Activities for which charges may be made:

Activities outside school hours

Non-residential activities which take place outside school hours will be charged for.

Residential activities

Board and lodging costs (but only those costs) of residential trips deemed to take place during school time. However, pupils whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits may not be charged for board and lodging costs.

Is a residential trip in or out of school time?

If the number of school sessions on a residential trip is equal to or greater than 50 percent of the number of half days spent on the trip it is deemed to have taken place during school hours (even if some activities take place late in the evening). Whatever the starting and finishing times of the school day, regulations require that the school day is divided into two sessions. A "half day" means any period of 12 hours ending with noon or midnight on any day.

Voluntary contributions are sought to offset the cost for all residential trips and associated activities. Activities may be cancelled if insufficient voluntary contributions are received.

Other Activities

Charges will be made for ingredients/materials for products in technology

Charges will be made for music tuition. A charge will be made for individual and group instrumental tuition whether provided within or outside of school hours. It will also be charged for whether or not it forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination or part of the National Curriculum. The school operates a remission scheme.

Charges will be made for hard copies of information requested under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and for postal charges.

Parents will be asked to pay for the cost of replacing for example, a broken window or a damaged textbook when this is the result of a pupil's behaviour.

Contributions

It is the policy of the governors to request voluntary contributions to help offset the cost of transport and admission costs and insurance costs for day visits and swimming, theatre in school, visiting musicians, authors or other outside agencies. No child will be excluded from these activities through non-payment of a voluntary contribution. Activities may be cancelled if insufficient voluntary contributions are received.

Additional Considerations

The governing body recognises its responsibility to ensure that the offer of activities and educational visits does not place an unnecessary burden on family finances. To this end we will try to adhere to the following guidelines:

- we have established a system for parents to make contributions in instalments
- when an opportunity for a trip arises at short notice it will be possible to arrange to contribute by instalments beyond the date of the trip