

Priory Rise Charging Policy

School Activities

The school recognises and values the wonderful contribution that day and residential visits can make towards a child's education and such visits enrich and broaden children's experiences in school. However, we do always take into account the potential financial burden that day and residential visits can be on parents and families. Prior to arranging any visits or extra activities we therefore consider carefully the value of these activities and consider the issue of 'value-for-money'. We also try to balance the number of visits which take place each term so that too many demands are not made on parents at any one time.

Charging for School Visits and Extra Activities in School

The Governing Body approves the policy of inviting voluntary contributions for all day visits and extra activities which take place in school time. However, such activities and visits can only go ahead if there are sufficient voluntary contributions to cover the cost.

Activities which take place outside of the school day such as additional football coaching provided by outside organisations will be charged for. In some circumstances where the activity is organised by an outside organisation (e.g. karate), payment for the activity is made directly to this organisation.

Residential Visits

At present the school is currently investigating residential visit options for children in Key Stage 2. If any visits proceed then the school must comply with the regulations with respect to the charging of activities. We **are permitted** to charge for the cost of board and lodging during residential school trips. This cost must not exceed the actual cost of the provision. Where the trip takes place wholly or mainly during school hours, children whose parents are in receipt of the following support payments will, in addition to having a free school-lunch entitlement, also be entitled to the remission of the charge for board and lodging:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income does not exceed £16,190 Guaranteed State Pension Credit.

The school may ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards the remaining cost of the visit. The contribution must be genuinely voluntary, though, and the pupils of parents who are unable or unwilling to contribute may not be discriminated against. However, where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible the visit will not be able to go ahead. This will be stated clearly in any correspondence with parents about proposed visits.

Music Tuition

The Governing Body approves the charging for instrumental tuition in accordance with Milton Keynes Council's Charging Policy. From April 2016 this charge will rise to £40 (currently £35) and a remission of £10 per term can be claimed if children are in receipt of free school meals. This entitles children to 10 x 30 minute lessons per term in a small group.

Arts, Crafts and Cooking

Where there is a cost for consumable items such as cooking ingredients, the school may ask for a small contribution from parents.

Breakages and Damages

Parents will be charged for the cost of repairs or damage to school property as a result of their child's misbehaviour.

In addition, if children lose or misplace books which they have borrowed from the school, the school will make a charge to the parents for the replacement cost of the book.

Paragraph to be inserted in all letters concerning visits for which there is a charge:

“In line with the governors' policy on charging for school visits we are asking for voluntary contributions of £.... per child. Whilst this is a voluntary contribution we are seeking, in the event that insufficient funds are available to allow us to proceed, then the visit will not be able to go ahead and all monies received will be refunded.”