



“Working together to fulfil potential”

CHARGING POLICY

Policy Number	6
Target Audience	Parents, Pupils and Staff
Approving Committee	Finance + Standards
Last Review Date	Oct 2021
Next Review Date	Oct 2023
Policy Author	KS

Introduction

It is the intention to provide for all pupils the best possible educational opportunities available within the funds allocated by the Local Authority. The law states very clearly that education during normal school hours should be free of any compulsory charge to parents and James Brindley wholly endorses that principle and is committed to uphold the legal requirements

Voluntary contributions: It is recognised that many educationally valuable activities have been, and will continue to be, dependent on financial contributions in whole or in part from parents and carers. Without that financial support, the school would find it quite impossible to maintain the quality and breadth of the educational programme provided for pupils. The school's concern is to keep financial contributions to a reasonable minimum and to ensure as far as possible that all children are able to take part, irrespective of their circumstances. However if we do not receive enough sufficient funding through voluntary contributions to make the trip viable, we reserve the right to cancel the trip. The law recognises that charges may be made to parents in certain defined circumstances - provided that each school has identified the activities for which charges will be made and has explained the basis on which charges may be reduced or waived for certain pupils. The Governing Body of James Brindley Primary School has decided that until further notice its policy will be as follows:

Day Visits

Participation in any optional extra activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to meet the charges. Parental agreement is therefore a necessary pre requisite for the provision of an optional extra where charges will be made. At the time of notification of the trip, charges will be reduced by 50% for Pupil Premium children.

Residential Visits during term time: If the school organises a residential visit in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, the school will not make a charge for the education element. However the school will make a charge to cover the pupil's travel, board and lodging, but the charge must not exceed the actual cost.

When the school informs parents about the forthcoming trip, a reduction of 50% will levied against these costs for Pupil Premium children:

If a parent is unwilling or unable to pay, their child must still be given an equal chance to go on the visit. Schools should make it clear to parents at the outset what their policy for allocating places on school trips will be.

Peripatetic Music Lessons:

Although the law states that all education provided during school hours must be free, music lessons are an exception to this rule. Parents are charged the cost of instrumental tuition provided by the Local Authority or other provider, for either an individual pupil or groups of up to four. In addition, a charge will be made for hire of instruments

Classroom materials:

No charge will be made for materials or equipment. However, for certain practical activities (Technology, Cookery, etc.) parents may be invited to make a contribution towards the cost of materials or ingredients on a voluntary basis. Where parents would like to possess the finished product, the School reserves the right to charge the cost or require the supply of the necessary materials.

Transport:

There will be no charge made for transport in connection with an educational trip. However, a voluntary contribution will be requested from all participants and if we cannot cover the cost from the contributions received, we reserve the right to cancel the trip.

Addendum: Lettings Policy The Governing Body will charge for lettings of the school premises in line with the costings outlined by the Local Authority. There will be no subsidies for groups using the school. One exception is where fundraising events are held for the benefit of the school on school premises e.g. Christmas Fair. No charge will be made under these circumstances.

NOTE

Adopted by the Governing Body: Summer 2016 (23rd June 2016).

The Governors of the School are required to keep this policy under review. The review will take place annually.

Annual Review undertaken:

Summer 2017 (22nd June 2017)

Autumn 2018 (10th October 2018)

Autumn 2019 (09th October 2019)

Autumn 2020 (07th October 2020)

Autumn 2021 (06th October 2021)