
CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Policy Number:	15
Member of Staff Responsible for the Policy:	Jonathan Meehan
Date on which this Policy was last reviewed:	September 2024
Date by which this Policy is to be reviewed:	April 2025
Dissemination of the Policy:	All Staff, Parents and carers (VIA Website), Governors

Below is the information sent out to parents of all incoming Year 7 students. It is updated each year and incorporated in a longer letter which requires a parental response.

CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The Governing Body is concerned to ensure that the variety of optional activities provided by the school continues. A great deal of staff time is devoted to these activities because they are regarded as of great value to young people's education. We have always received whole-hearted parental support for this aim. The following notes summarise school policy:

- i) **Materials for Practical Subjects.**
In practical subjects (e.g. Food Technology and Design Technology) parents are asked to provide ingredients or materials when a completed item is to be taken home. Alternatively, departments may ask parents to contribute a small sum per year toward the cost of items produced during that year. The departments provide ingredients or materials for all experimental investigations and for some design tasks. If all these materials had to be provided from the school's finances the cost would be prohibitive and much of the practical work would have to cease. It is quite permissible for schools to charge in the way outlined above as long as parents agree, in advance, that they want to own the finished items. Pupil Premium funding may be used to supplement or cover the entire cost of required materials for eligible students.

ii) Contributions for other Subjects

Parents may be asked to contribute to the cost of items for use in other subjects from time to time, e.g. set texts for English exams. These will usually be notified in good time and will always be made at cost price. Pupil Premium funding may be used to supplement or cover the entire cost of required materials for eligible students.

iii) Schools Visits and Journeys

Visits, journeys etc. taking place in school time (or largely in school time) can only be funded directly from school resources or by asking for voluntary contributions from parents. A student cannot be excluded from an activity because parents do not contribute. Pupil Premium funding may be used to supplement or cover the entire cost of any educational trip or visit for eligible students. The school continues to anticipate that parents will wish to continue to support their students by contributing to the cost of these activities, otherwise it is likely that some, if not all, would have to be cancelled.

iv) Direct Home to Activity Travel

Some activities are sanctioned but not provided by the Local Authority or School, e.g. work experience. In these circumstances, parents will be asked to meet the cost of transport direct from home to activity. For students in Key Stage 4 accessing alternative provision, we ask them to make their own way to the host institution e.g. York College. If it is impossible for the student to get to the host institution, school will organise extraordinary transport.

v) Wilful or Avoidable Accidental Damage

It is school policy to ask parents to pay a contribution towards any wilful or avoidable accidental damage caused to school property by their child (at the discretion of the Headteacher or School Business Manager).