

WEST HAM CHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Charging Policy

At West Ham Church School we follow the guidance given by the government (DES circular 2/89 Education Reform Act 1898) with regard to charging.

DES circular 2/89 Education Reform Act 1989:

Charges for school activities

Any charge must not exceed the cost of the activity. This means in practice the following:

Day Visits

- Charges for day visits are voluntary and parents are made aware of this fact;
- No child will be omitted because of insufficient funds but it must be understood that these activities will not take place if insufficient voluntary contributions are forthcoming;
- Any charge made will not exceed the price of the activity;
- Any adult cost will be met by the school funds.

Study Support Activities

These take place outside school hours (lunch times and after school) and are optional extras for which parents choose to allow their children to take part in, they must agree in advance to meet any charges.

Residential Journeys

In School Time

Charges may be made for transport and board and lodging on a voluntary basis.

** [ERA 110 3b] Parents who are in receipt of income support or family credit will receive full remission of charges.

Out of School Time

Parent may be charged for transport, board and lodging on residential visits as well as the full costs when a visit is deemed as an "optional extra". An optional extra will fall mainly or wholly outside school hours; is not part of the National Curriculum; not a part of the syllabus towards a prescribed Public Examination and not in scope of the statutory requirements relating to religious education. However parents must agree to pay in advance.

** We must remit 60% of board and lodgings. [ERA 100 2b].

The governors have produced this statement to uphold the charging policy as directed

By law, no state school can make a charge for:

- Education wholly or mainly within school hours

- Materials and ingredients for things made in school which pupils or parents do not want to keep
- Visits in or outside school hours which are necessary for an examination

Charges may be made for the following:

- Individual music tuition which is not part of the syllabus for an examination;
- Certain excursions where a third party is involved;
- Board and lodging where a school activity involves a residential element;
- The exact cost of 'optional extras' i.e. not connected directly with the National Curriculum.

The school governors have decided that, in general, charges will only ever be made for a school activity if this is the only way to guarantee the event takes place. This is most likely to apply to some educational visits and excursions. We will always inform parents at the outset, and try to assist parents who would have genuine difficulty in paying.

Reviewed OCTOBER 2019