

Welton St. Mary's Church of England Primary Academy



Our Vision

As an inclusive Christian community we value each person, seeking to release everyone's full potential as promised by Jesus Christ. We seek to provide a safe, inspiring and creative learning environment providing opportunities for all to flourish. Through challenge, support and care, we strive for excellence in all that we do; always building on the foundations of shared values with consistently high expectations rooted in God's love. Together we are encouraged to be agents of positive change in this world.

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.' Romans 15:13

Wisdom Hope Community Dignity

Together we care, learn and thrive

Charging Policy

Approved October 2021
Next Review Term 2 2022-

Welton St Mary's CE Primary Academy
Charging Policy
2021/2022

Introduction

The Education Act 1996 revised the law on charging for school activities. The basic principle underlying the charging provisions of the Act is that education provided by a maintained school should be free if it takes place wholly or mainly during school hours.

DES Circular 2/89 gives the following guidance:

- to maintain the right to free school education;
- to establish that activities offered wholly or mainly during normal teaching time should be available to all pupils regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the costs;
- to emphasise that there is no statutory requirement to charge for any form of education or related activity, but to give the Council, and schools, the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours;
- to confirm the right of the Council, and schools, to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school, or in support of any activity organised by the school, whether during or outside school hours.

Educational Visits

At St Mary's we are committed to the value of first-hand experience. This involves regular visits out of school for each class.

These trips enhance the children's education and therefore are in addition to your child's basic education and is therefore an optional extra. As such, any visit which is deemed by the academy to be in addition to the basic curriculum will be on the basis of parental choice and willingness to meet charges. If your child claims Free School Meals or you feel that there is an extenuating circumstance then an enquiry about support can be made to the School Business Manager. Alternative education which meets the curriculum needs will be provided within school for any child who does not participate on the visit.

If sufficient contributions are not forthcoming, the school will reserve the right to cancel the proposed visit.

Charges for educational visits are based on the cost of the entrance fee, transport and any additional workshops.

Residential Visits

On a residential visit no charge may be made for the cost of travel or the education provided if the activity is deemed to take place during school hours or if the visit is with the purpose of teaching the National Curriculum. Pupils can, however, be charged the cost of board and lodging.

It is school policy that the cost of residential visits shall be defrayed by a combination of voluntary contributions (travel and educational activities) and charges (board and lodging). No pupil shall be excluded because their parents decline to make a voluntary contribution or inability to pay a charge.

Parents of a pupil who are in receipt of the benefits below cannot be charged for the board and lodging element of such a visit:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration & 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
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit

No child shall be asked for a contribution greater than their share.

If sufficient voluntary contributions are not forthcoming the school will reserve the right to cancel the proposed visit.

Swimming

During the time that children are in KS1, they will have swimming lessons. Children who cannot swim 25m after that time shall be given further lessons.

The school regards swimming as an educational visit and costs will be defrayed on the same basis. School will ask parents for a contribution towards the cost of tuition and transport

18 sessions per year are offered at a cost of £4.00 per week per child to cover the cost of tuition and transport.

Food Technology

In order to defray the cost of materials used in Food Technology, the school asks parents to make a voluntary contribution of £3.00 per academic year.

Music Tuition

Violin, cello, guitar, brass, drums and woodwind, keyboard and piano lessons are taught by Lincolnshire Music Service peripatetic staff. Music tuition is now invoiced directly by Lincolnshire Music Service to the parent/carer.

General

Library Books, if library books are not returned to school by the due date, a reminder will be sent to parents to return the library book within two weeks of the due back date, if the library book is still not returned within the two-week deadline a second reminder will be sent to parents. If it is not returned after the second reminder, an invoice will be sent to parents to pay for a replacement book.

Read Write Inc Books if books are returned damaged or not returned at all, there will be a £5 charge to replace the book.

Water Bottles are provided at a cost of £2.50 each to the end of the summer term 2022. The price will then be reviewed and adjusted in accordance with the manufacturer's charges.

Annual Performance tickets are sold for performances. Monies raised pays for the licence of the production and for future activities in school **Hot School Meals** are provided by Good Lookin Cookin, the charge per child, per meal is £2.30. Any meals ordered and not taken that are cancelled the previous day with Good Lookin Cookin are eligible for a refund. Universal Infant Free School Meals are provided free to all children in key stage 1.

School Uniform is manufactured and purchased directly through Uniform Direct.