

Rowner Junior School

Statement of Policy on Charging

The Education Reform Act 1996 and the Education Regulations 1999, make special reference to the circumstances under which schools can make a charge for activities arranged for children. The governing body sets out below its policy in respect of charging for school activities.



School Visits

The governing body supports the view that educational visits, linked to the planned programme of work are important and of direct educational benefit to the pupils involved. To enable educational visits to take place the governing body proposes that when school visits are being planned that:

- all visits are authorised by the head teacher
- any *hazardous pursuits* are authorised by the governing body
- parents are given details of the visit, and invited to make a voluntary contribution
- the suggested voluntary contribution will not include the cost of accompanying adults
- the total cost of visits will be subsidised by the school by 25%
- any pupil in local authority care will not be charged for school visits
- pupils whose parents do not make a voluntary contribution will be treated no differently from those whose parents have contributed towards the cost. (Further details to be found in the Off-Site Activities Policy)

Swimming

The swimming programme takes place in every year group. It is part of the National Curriculum and every child's entitlement. Parents will not be asked to pay anything towards the cost.

Residential Visits

The school organises opportunities for residential visits. As these trips are enrichment activities and therefore not essential to the curriculum parents are asked to meet the full cost of any trips. The school provides a payment / saving scheme for all parents should they wish to spread the cost of the trip. Full payment must be made before the trip in order for children to go. These costs may be met by the school for any pupil in Local Authority care. Children who do not wish to go on the trip will be given enrichment activities in school.

Activities arranged to take place out of school hours

Where the whole, or the majority of an activity, takes place out of normal school hours, e.g. a concert on a Saturday morning, or evening activity, then the full cost of the activity will be charged to parents and only those paying this charge will be permitted to take part. These costs may be met by the school for any pupil in Local Authority care.

Damage to school premises or equipment

Parents / carers will be asked to pay for the cost involved if their child is responsible for willful damage to school property or the misuse or loss of books and equipment.