

John Scurr Primary School Charging Policy

This policy has been written following the Charging & Remission Policy Guidance from London Borough of Tower Hamlets, 2010. Sections 449-462 of the Education Act 1996 set out the legal framework governing the charging of school activities.

John Scurr is an inclusive school and governors are committed to ensuring that no pupils are excluded from school activities because of cost. It is their aim that all pupils should receive equal access to curricular and extra-curricular activities. This helps to ensure that all pupils have equal access to the broad and imaginative curriculum provided by the school.

1. Education During School Hours

The school arranges a number of trips and visits to enhance and broaden the school curriculum. Children are taken to places of interest, museums, concerts etc. In addition, they work with visiting theatre (and other) groups in school. The governing body makes no charge for these enrichment activities but does ask for contributions towards the cost. Parents are also asked to pay for materials for practical activities in some circumstances.

Contributions are asked for in the following circumstances:

To pay for:

- enrichment activities taking place during the school day e.g. trips out or to pay performers to come into school etc. (Unless a majority of parents are willing to contribute towards trips and activities they may not be able take place)

2. Out of Hours Activities

We make no charge for activities taking place outside the school day, which are required to fulfil statutory duties relating to the national curriculum or to religious education.

All other activities, described as 'optional extra' activities, are charged for at cost. It is the Governing Body's intention that the school will make no profit from such activities.

Charges for 'optional extra' activities may include:

- travel, board and lodging for trips and activities outside school hours, such as the annual Year 6 School Journey
- entrance charges to facilities
- costs of materials, books and equipment etc.

3. Damage to School Property

The Governing Body reserves the right to ask parents to contribute to the cost of repairs, or of replacing defaced, damaged or lost property where this is a result of a pupil's inappropriate behaviour.

4. Subsidies and Support

- The decision as to the proportion of the global cost of an activity which will be met from the School's Budget or from the School Fund will be made by the Headteacher
- In the case of the use of agreed funds from the School's budget or from School Fund, the Headteacher will advise the Governors of such use of funds via the Finance Committee
- Cases of genuine financial hardship or need should not prevent students taking part in an activity. To this end, parents should be advised formally of the sources of support available for the school residents
- The staff of the School should use their knowledge of their students to alert the Headteacher of potential financial difficulties, which may handicap potential participants' so that informal and confidential contacts with home can be made. In this way, the School will seek to support financially disadvantaged pupils

5. School Residential Charges

The school will charge £90.00 per pupil regardless of family income. In cases where the family has requested additional financial support the charge will be reduced to £70.00. Therefore the subsidy is more than 50%. For children entitled to a FSM we plan to use a contribution from the pupil premium. We may also use the school fund nor corporate investment to ensure maximum participation.

Signed by Headteacher.....

Signed by Chair of Governors.....

Date:.....