



CONSTANTINE SCHOOL CHARGING POLICY

THIS POLICY WAS APPROVED April 2017

This charging policy has been compiled in line with DfE requirements and in accordance with s457 of the Education Act, 1996, Education (School Sessions and Charges and Remissions Policies) (Information)(England) Regulations 1999. Education (Residential Trips) (Prescribed Tax Credits) (England) Regulations 2003, SI, 2003/381, The School Information (England) Regulations 2008 (as amended) and with information from Charging for School Activity Guidance 2014

The principles as laid down in the Education Reform Act are as follows:-

1. That education in schools should be free,
2. That activities offered wholly or mainly during normal school teaching time should be available to all pupils, regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
3. That there is no statutory requirement to charge for any form of education, but that LAs and schools have the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours.
4. LAs and schools have the right 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.

The policy of the *Governors of Constantine* to interpret and implement the above is:-

1. Optional educational visits wholly or mainly (as defined in Charging for School Activity Guidance 2014) outside school hours will be charged at full cost.
2. Educational visits wholly or mainly (as defined in Charging for School Activity Guidance 2014) during school hours may be funded by voluntary contributions. No child may be excluded from such educational visits because the parents are unable or unwilling to pay a voluntary contribution.

3. Board and lodging costs on residential visits will be charged except to those parents in receipt of Working Families Tax Credit or Income Support.
4. Individual tuition in the playing of a musical instrument by a teacher employed by the LA in or out of school hours will be charged for.
5. The school may invite voluntary contribution towards the cost of ingredients, materials and equipment where parents have expressed the wish in advance to have the finished product.
6. The school reserves the rights to charge the full cost of any breakages or damage to school property, e.g. breaking a window, damage to school equipment including books.
7. The Governors may make provision from school funds or Pupil Premium funding for costs incurred by the children of parents who are unable or unwilling to make a voluntary contribution. In the light of financial constraints should insufficient voluntary contributions be forthcoming the education visit will have to be cancelled.

Remissions Policy

- The Headteacher, Finance Committee or Governing Body may remit in full or part charges in respect of a pupil, if it feels it is reasonable in the circumstances.
- The Headteacher, Finance Committee or Governing Body may decide not to levy charges in respect of a particular activity, if it feels it is reasonable in the circumstances.

This policy will be reviewed as the need arises.

Policy Approval History

First approved: 11th July 2011

Reviewed June 2014; March 2015; April 2017