



Featherby Federation

Charging Policy

Written:

Approved by Governors:

Review Date:

Featherby Federation

Charging Policy

Introduction:

This Policy complies with the statutory requirements, has regard to the Authority's Policy Statements on charging and is reviewed on a regular basis by the Governors.

The Education Act 1996 states that education provided during school hours must be free. Charges may be made for activities that happen outside school hours. Although schools cannot charge for school-time activities, they may invite parents to make voluntary contributions so that school funds go further.

Principles Statement:

Across the Featherby Federation, we offer all pupils, parents and staff equal opportunities regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, ability or background. To achieve this, we provide support for individual learning needs to ensure all pupils meet their potential. We recognise the range of needs and value the wide diversity of cultures of each child. We do not tolerate discrimination of any kind against our pupils, parents or staff.

The Featherby Federation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Policy Statement:

Where possible, activities taking place within in school hours will be funded from within the school budget or the PTA. However, it is likely that funds will not cover the costs of the activities. The Governors may request that parents make a voluntary contribution towards additional activities that the school is under no obligation to provide.

Where a voluntary contribution has been requested, children of parents who do not contribute will not be treated any differently to other children. All children will be charged an equal amount to cover the total cost of the activity. If an activity cannot take place without some help from parents, this will be explained at the planning stage. Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, other means of making up the shortfall will be investigated but if it is not possible, the activity will be cancelled.

Activities for which a voluntary contribution may be requested:

Educational Visits: Parents/carers may be asked to contribute to any visits and trips that area arranged to support curriculum work. These visits are important as they offer opportunities to learn through first-hand experience and interaction. Often these visits require travel by coach which increases the cost of the trip.

Performances: Parents/carers may be asked to contribute towards any performances that are organised by the school – these include mobile theatre companies, dance workshops and other

visitors providing stimulus activities. These activities support the development of creativity and language.

Chargeable Activities:

The school may recover the full costs of the following activities:

- Educational or other activities provided wholly or mainly outside school hours which are not
 - Part of the National Curriculum
 - Part of a syllabus for a prescribed public exam which the pupil is being prepared for at school

These activities may be provided directly or through commissioned services. The charges will not exceed the actual cost.

Within the Featherby Federation, chargeable activities are:

- Music lesson which has been requested by parents/carers (eg recorder, piano, violin and guitar lessons)
- Breakfast Club (held in the Junior School but open to all pupils from Year R upwards)
- After School Clubs
- Board, lodging and travel costs associated with the Residential Trips the Junior School arrange for pupils in Years 4 and 6.

Additional Costs:

Where deliberate and wilful damage to school property has been caused by pupils and/or adults, we may seek to recover the cost of repair and/or replacement.

Any photocopying associated with Freedom Information requests will be at the rate of 10p per sheet.

School Uniform:

The Federation seeks to keep school uniform costs to a minimum by having white shirts and grey trousers or skirts that can be purchased easily from local shops/supermarkets.

The uniform tops (fleece jackets, sweatshirts and cardigans), book bags, water bottles, ties etc that the school sells are sourced following a 'best value' analysis and are sold on a cost recovery basis.

Review of Charges:

A review of charges will be conducted annually. This will cover charges for clubs and activities undertaken on a daily or weekly basis including Breakfast Club.