Firs Farm Primary School



Charging Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any
activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum or RE with the exception
of individual or group music tuition and a voluntary donation of £10.00 for
passport signing.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 As per the law 2008. When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. The school makes sure that all families know that contributions are voluntary and families are not overcharged for the trip. The charge can include the cost of teachers accompanying the trip. However if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.
- 2.2 If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is
 unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to
 participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional
 costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is
 funded. The school provides this information on request.
- 2.3 The following is a list of additional activities organized by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known
- As 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:
 - visits to museums
 - sporting activities which require transport expenses
 - · outdoor adventure activities
 - · visits to the theatre
 - school trips abroad
 - musical events
 - Workshops

3 Residential visits

We make it clear in the school's prospectus that for a residential activity e.g School journey which is an enrichment programme we are allowed to ask for contributions. Once again if we do not have sufficient funds then the journey would have to be cancelled. If the trip was residential and formed part of the National Curriculum or RE instruction there should be no charge. We will do our best to find further funding to support families who receive

Firs Farm Primary School



- Income support
- Income based job seeker's allowance
- Support under part 6 of the immigration and Asylum Act1999
- Child Tax credit (providing that they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and customs, that does not exceed 15,575 in the tax year 08-09
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- An income related employment and support allowance (this benefit was introduced in December 2008)

4 Music tuition

- **4.1** All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2 There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of
 the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or
 small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of
 state benefits need to contact the Enfield Arts Service to discuss exemption
 from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the
 start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2.
These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We
make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to
take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take
part in swimming lessons.