



CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Admissions

There is no charge for admitting pupils to Middleton School.

School Meals & Milk

There is no charge for pupils who are entitled to free school meals or universal infant free school meals. Pupils who are not entitled to free school meals will be charged a set amount in line with local authority guidelines. Milk is provided free of charge to children in receipt of benefit related free school meals.

During School Hours

There is no charge for activities held during school hours or the transport to school organised activities. This includes the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment.

The school may charge for:

- Materials, books or equipment where the child's parent/carer wishes the child to own them
- Optional extras such as activities arranged by a third party

The school may also ask for voluntary contributions to fund the activity

Optional Extras

Charges may be made for some activities that are known as 'optional extras'.

The school may charge for activities outside of school hours where these are not a necessary part of the national curriculum.

These charges could include:

- Travel costs
- Entrance fees
- Insurance costs
- Materials, books or equipment

Residential Trips

The school is permitted to charge for the cost of board and lodging during residential school trips, even if they occur mainly during school time. This cost must not exceed the actual cost of the provision. However, the school can not charge for the educational or travel elements.

Where the trip takes place wholly, or mainly, during school hours, children whose parents are in receipt of the benefits listed may in addition to having a free school lunch entitlement also be exempt from paying the full cost (see remissions below)

Minibus

Only the school's pupils, staff or parents may travel for a charge in a school's minibus and only where a permit has been issued under Section 19 of the Transport Act 1985. This permit is not required where no charge (in cash or kind) is made. Any charge made may cover the costs of



running the vehicle, but the school must not make a profit.

Extended Schools

The school may run extra-curricular activities (i.e. sports club/cookery club); the total cost will not exceed the cost of providing the activity and if any profits made by from providing such facilities or services will be reinvested in the school or in the service.

Voluntary Contributions

The Headteacher or Governing Body may ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of:

- any activity which takes place during school hours;
- school equipment;
- school funds generally.

The contribution must be genuinely voluntary, though, and the pupils of parents who are unable or unwilling to contribute will not be discriminated against. Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and there is no way to make up the shortfall, then it will be cancelled. If the activity is cancelled all monies will be returned to parents

The school will ensure that no child is excluded from an activity due to parents/carers unwillingness or ability to pay.

Remissions

Pupils whose parents/carers receive the following benefits may be entitled to remission of charges:

- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- Child Tax Credit provided the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income, assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs does not exceed the annual limit
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

The Headteacher and governors will consider remission of charges on a case by case basis. Any discussions and decisions made will be confidential.

The school may choose to subsidise part or all of the payment of some charges for certain activities and for certain pupils, this will be determined by the Headteacher and governors. Parents will be advised of the support available to them when being asked for contributions towards the cost of school visits.

Date approved by Middleton School Governing Body: February 2024

Date of next review: February 2025