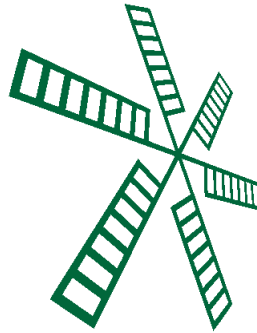


Waltham Leas Primary Academy



WALTHAM LEAS
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Charging Policy

Approved by:	K Capindale
Last reviewed on:	October 2025
Next review due by:	October 2028

Charging Policy

Rationale

This policy is to ensure that there is consistency across the school in terms of charging for activities.

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

Voluntary contributions

When organising activities, 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 activity. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel an activity. If an activity goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each activity is funded. The school provides this information on request. A specific budget is allocated each year to meet additional costs.

The following is a list of additional activities organised 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 or by theatre / musical groups;
- school trips;
- musical events / specialist tuition
- visitors to support the curriculum.

Residential visits

The school organises a residential visit mainly out of school time, which is to provide education indirectly related to the National Curriculum. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and travel. All parents are requested to make payment for these visits. In the event of financial hardship, various charitable groups can be contacted to determine whether financial support can be obtained such as the Rotary Club, etc. The Governors have agreed that a designated amount can be set aside for each residential visit to assist parents who apply for subsidies.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum.

There is a charge for individual music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. They make a charge directly for these lessons. Parents in receipt of state benefits can apply to the music teachers to ascertain if they are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

Hand Held Technology

Parents are asked to lease a device through school when their child is in Key Stage 2. This entitles the child to bring the device home each evening to help them with their homework. All children have a personal device in school, those whose parents lease the device can also use them at home. Parents have the option of providing their own device, but it needs to be the same type as used in school.

Swimming

The Academy 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 the actual swimming 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.

After school sports clubs

The school offers additional sports coaching after school. Sports coaches, who are not members of the school staff, run and organise these sessions. A small charge is made for these sessions.