

## CHARGING POLICY

Neither the pupil nor his parents will be required to pay for, or to supply, any materials, books, instruments or other equipment for use in connection with education provided during school hours, except the basic equipment detailed in the Year 7 Parents Guide. Parents may provide their children voluntarily with particular items, in order to release resources from the school budget for other purposes, but no child should be at a disadvantage because of a parent's unwillingness or inability to contribute in this way. Equipment is defined in the Education Act as excluding clothing. However, the school will still provide essential protective clothing such as safety goggles.

The school will provide or pay for any ingredients, materials, equipment etc. needed for practical subjects such as food technology or design & technology. Parents who are willing to contribute in cash or in kind are however encouraged to do so on a voluntary basis. The school may charge for, or require the supply of, ingredients and materials if parents have indicated in advance a wish to own the finished product.

No charge will be made for class music tuition or group musical activities within school hours. Music tuition, whether group or individual, will also be free if it forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination or is required by the National Curriculum, whether it is provided within or outside school hours. Therefore, parents will not be required to purchase, or to meet hire costs for musical instruments; to meet insurance costs relating to hire; or to provide music. They may be invited to provide instruments and music on a voluntary basis, so as to reduce pressures on the school budget, but only on the understanding that no child will be penalised because his parent does not contribute.

If a pupil fails without good reason to complete the examination requirements for any public examination for which the governing body or LEA has paid, or is liable to pay an entry fee, the fee will be recovered from the parent. Failure to complete the examination requirements might include failure to complete the coursework requirements and/or failure to sit the final examination(s). It is for the governing body to determine what constitutes a good reason.

Parents will be required to pay for the cost of replacing a broken window or other damage to the school buildings or a defaced, damaged or lost text book or damage/destruction to other educational resources where this is the result of a pupil's behaviour.

For school journeys, other than those related to the National Curriculum, parents may be asked to contribute towards the cost.

NOTE: The Education Act provides that any sums payable by parents for wasted examination fees or for optional extras to which they had agreed shall be recoverable summarily as a civil debt.

### **Monitoring and review**

This policy will be reviewed annually.