

Balcarras School recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including trips, clubs and residential experiences can make towards pupils' education. The school aims to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils of the school and as additional optional activities.

CHARGES

The school reserves the right to make a charge in the following circumstances for activities organised by the school:

- **School Journeys in School Hours**
The board and lodging element of approved residential activities deemed to take place in school hours.
The cost of travel to and from educational visits.
If an event is deemed an optional add-on, rather than directly required for the examination syllabus, all associated costs may be charged to parents
- **Activities outside School Hours**
The full cost to each pupil of all approved activities deemed to be optional extras taking place outside school hours.
- **Individual Instrumental Tuition**
The cost to the pupil for providing any instrumental tuition not part of normal LEA peripatetic provision.
- **Charging in Kind**
The cost of materials, ingredients, equipment (or the provision of them by parents) for subjects where such a charge would be appropriate.

General

The school may, from time to time, amend the categories of activity for which a charge may be made. Nothing in this policy statement precludes the school from inviting parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of additional activities which take place in school time. Parents may be advised that the continuance of an activity may depend upon voluntary contributions, but once it has been decided to run such an activity no qualifying child will be excluded on the grounds of voluntary contributions.

REMISSIONS

Where the parents of a pupil are in receipt of income support or family credit, the school may offer to remit in full the cost of full board and lodging for any residential activity which is deemed to take place in school hours and where it forms an essential part of the examination syllabus.

The school may wish to remit in full or in part the cost of other activities for particular groups of parents, for example, in the case of family hardship. However, the school does not have to offer any remission for hardship for an activity that is outside of normal lesson time and not a compulsory part of the curriculum.

When arranging a chargeable activity, such parents will be invited in confidence for the remission of charges in full or in part. Authorisation for such remission will be made by the Deputy Headteacher and in consultation where necessary with the Headteacher.