



Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

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CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY Charging for School Activities

1. Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership will not charge for:

- education provided on site during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment);
- education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum¹, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education;
- entry for a prescribed public examination, if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school; and
- examination re-sit(s) if the pupil is being prepared for the re-sit(s) at the school².

2. Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership will charge for:

- any materials, books, instruments, or equipment where the child's parent wishes him to own them;
- optional extras (see below); and
- music and vocal tuition, in limited circumstances (see paragraph 6)

3. Optional Extras

Charges may be made for some activities that are known as "optional extras". Where an optional extra is being provided, a charge **can** be made for providing materials, books, instruments or equipment. **Optional extras are:**

- revision classes provided during school holidays;
- education provided outside of school time that is not:
 - a) part of the National Curriculum;
 - b) part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school; or
 - c) part of religious education.
- examination entry fee(s) if the registered pupil has not been prepared for the examination(s) at the school;
- transport that is not required to take the pupil to school or to other premises where the governing body have arranged for the pupil to be provided with education; and
- board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit.

In calculating the cost of optional extras an amount may be included in relation to:

- any materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in connection with the optional extra;
- non-teaching staff;
- teaching staff engaged under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra, this includes supply teachers engaged specifically to provide the optional extra; and the cost of, or a proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, where the tuition is an optional extra.

¹ It should be noted that 'part of the National Curriculum' is not restricted to learning outside the classroom experiences that are specifically subject based (eg geography or science fieldwork) and include, for example, activities designed to fulfil requirements under the National Curriculum 'inclusion statement' (eg developing teamwork skills)

² However if a pupil fails, without good reason, to meet any examination requirement for a syllabus, the fee can be recovered from the pupil's parents.

4. Voluntary Contributions

Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership may ask for voluntary contributions to help fund school activities, however there is no obligation to make any contribution.

No child will be excluded from an activity simply because his or her parents are unwilling or unable to pay. If insufficient voluntary contributions are raised to fund a visit, then it will be cancelled.

5. Residential Visits

Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership will not charge for:

- education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours;
- education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education; and
- supply teachers to cover those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit.

Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership will charge for:

- board and lodging

6. Music Tuition

Charges will be made for teaching either an individual pupil or groups of any appropriate size (provided that the size of the group is based on sound pedagogical principles) to play a musical instrument or to sing.

7. Remissions Policy

Children on Free School Meals will normally be subsidised for 25% of the cost for chargeable activities. In exceptional circumstances a further subsidy may be given at the discretion of the Business Manager.

An activities booklet is issued annually detailing activities available and likely cost.

8. Damage/Loss to Property

A charge will be levied in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of school property (including premises, furniture, equipment, books or materials). The charge to be the cost of replacement or repair, or such lower cost as the Headteacher/Business Manager may decide.