

BLACK HORSE HILL INFANT SCHOOL

CHARGING POLICY - SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, SCHOOL LUNCHES & MILK

The governing body of Black Horse Hill Infant School has adopted the following policy in connection with the matter of charging for school activities.

1. The governing body endorses the policy of the Wirral Local Authority (LA) with respect to charging for school activities. This policy backs the principles that education in maintained schools should be free and that no pupil's education should be affected by his or her parents' / carer's unwillingness or inability to pay or contribute towards the cost of the pupil's education.
2. Pupils should not have to pay for any materials, books, instruments or other equipment which they use in connection with education provided during school hours. However, the school may charge for, or ask for ingredients or materials for, practical subjects where parents have said that they want to own the finished product.
3. School trips and visits form an important part of the curriculum offered by our school. Parents are not required to pay for such visits, but may be asked to make voluntary contributions towards the cost. No pupil will be excluded from a school trip because of their parents' unwillingness or inability to contribute, however, it is hoped that parents will feel able to support the school in its efforts to provide a full and interesting curriculum for all its pupils. If the contributions made are not sufficient to enable a planned trip to take place, the Headteacher may cancel the trip or make such changes to the organisation of the trip as she thinks necessary.
4. Parents/carers may be charged for activities defined as "optional extras", that is, activities which are provided mainly out of school hours and which are not part of the curriculum. If parents would like their children to take part in such activities but are unable to meet the full cost, financial assistance may be available; the Headteacher is happy to talk to parents in confidence about that possibility.
5. Parents may be asked for payment towards the cost of repairing or replacing any part of the fabric of the school or any item of school property which has been damaged or lost as a result of their child's behaviour.
6. School milk is provided by Mortons Dairies. Milk is provided free to pupils in Foundation 1, and pupils who are eligible for free school meals.
7. A "Schedule of Charges" will be compiled annually and agreed by the Governing Body. This will include any services provided by the school where a cost is incurred.

8. School meals may be given free of charge to staff and / or visitors at the discretion of the Headteacher.

Taken to Finance and Personnel Meeting dated **14th November 2024**

Approval at full Governing Body meeting dated **28th November 2024**

Signed (Vice-Chair of Governors) **J Merrin**