

# Charging and Refund Policy



## **Charges for School Activities**

Legislation allows schools to charge for certain activities which take place both inside and outside school hours. Falcon Junior School has adopted the Norfolk County Council policy. This policy is described in the brochure, which can be obtained from the school.

These are the activities and materials for which parents/carers will be charged:

- Music tuition: individual tuition in playing a musical instrument which is neither part of the syllabus for an approved public examination, nor part of the National Curriculum. Falcon Junior School may charge for instrumental tuition given to groups of no more than four pupils.
- Ingredients and materials: ingredients and materials for practical subjects where parents have indicated in advance that they wish to receive the finished articles.
- Travel: the cost of travel when a pupil makes use of transport not provided by the authority or school, to travel direct from home to an activity approved of, but not provided by, the authority or school.
- Board and lodging: board and lodging will be charged in all cases where a school activity involves pupils in nights away from home.

## **Activities outside school hours**

A charge will be made for all non-residential activities which take place wholly or more than 50% outside school hours, where the child's participation has been agreed in advance by the parents. The charge will include the cost of travel, entrance fees, insurance, books, equipment and any staff (teaching or non-teaching) engaged specifically for the activity.

Residential trips outside school hours - a residential trip is deemed to take place outside school hours if the number of "missed" school sessions is less than half of the number of half days taken up by the trip. Charges will be made as described above.

Remission of charges - only parents who are in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Job Seeker's Allowance, an income-related employment and support allowance (this benefit was introduced on 27 October 2008); Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and Child Tax Credit, where the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and whose annual income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) does not exceed £16,040 or the Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit are eligible for remission of charges. Remission of charges only applies to board and lodgings charges which are levied directly by the LA or the school and where they relate to activities deemed to take place wholly or partly in school hours.

Remission will not apply to such charges when they relate to activities wholly outside school hours, except if the activity is prescribed by the National Curriculum or fulfils duties relating to Religious Education.

Parents who have difficulty meeting any charges should discuss the matter in confidence with the headteacher.

## **Refunds**

The contribution to a trip will be refunded

- In full, if a child is absent due to illness or if a trip has to be cancelled
- In part, if contributions to a trip exceed the total cost but only if the excess is more than £2 per child. If less than £2, then the total excess will be paid into school fund and this money will fund any subsequent shortfalls in trip contributions.