



Ysgol yr Hafod Johnstown

Charging Policy

Date: June 2023

Review Date: Summer Term 2025

Review Body: Staff/Governors

Charging Policy

Educational Visits

All education on site during school hours is free. However, we endeavour to provide a broad and varied curriculum for the children. There are occasions where their experiences would be enhanced by an educational visit, residential visit or visitors to the school.

When organising visits or visitors, the school may invite parents to contribute to the cost of the trip or visit. All contributions are voluntary. If insufficient money comes into school to cover the cost, the difference may be made up from the school budget or from school fund at the discretion of the headteacher. Due to the reduction in budgets this will be closely monitored by the headteacher. If there is a large shortfall in funding there is a possibility that the activity may have to be cancelled.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do not treat these children differently to others. The child is allowed to participate fully in the activity. Parents have the right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

Residential Trips

Residential trips outside school are charged for but if any parent is unable to pay the full amount by the agreed date, they should make an appointment with the headteacher to discuss methods of payment. We believe that the experience of residential visits should not be dependent on parents' ability to pay timely.

Pupil Deprivation Grant PDGR

Children who are eligible for Free School meals/ in receipt of certain benefits can claim remission for board and lodgings on a residential trip for certain venues (Cardiff, Urdd Centres) The school will use Pupil Deprivation Grant (PDGR) to support vulnerable families/ parents in receipt of benefits for residential trips not covered by the Urdd/ Cardiff centres. The school will also use PDGR to support vulnerable and FSM families on other educational visits where needed

Swimming

It is the school's policy to request a voluntary contribution from parents towards the transport costs to swimming lessons. There is no charge for the instruction of swimming as this is catered for within the school's budget.

Music Tuition

Wrexham music cooperative provides a music service. The school can apply for a FSM music grant to support pupils on FSM who wish to learn an instrument. Parents may be asked to pay

for the cost of lessons . Money from our PDG grant will be set aside to support any pupils who require financial support to access the music tuition, not covered by the FSM grant.

After School Clubs

After school activities provided by teachers are provided on a voluntary basis as a result of teachers' good will so there is no charge for these. On some occasions outside agencies may offer out of school activities and they may charge for their services. Parents may be asked to pay for this.

School House Wrap around is a separate provision to the school and charges for its services.

School Property

If school property is deliberately damaged by a child then the parents/carers may be charged for the damage, at the discretion of the headteacher, who will consider all the facts relevant to the act that caused the damage. Any school property which is taken home and is lost or damaged may also be charged for.

Arrears

School Dinners are managed by Wrexham Catering using ParentPay. Parents order online and pay for dinner as it is ordered. If there is an arrears on the account, either the facility to order a meal is 'greyed out' or Wrexham Catering will contact the parent direct. If a child has not been able to order a meal, school will contact the parent to ask them to update their account on ParentPay or to provide a packed lunch until the account has been brought up to date.

NB: The school will never allow a child to go hungry. If a child is without dinner and parents cannot be contacted- the school will pay for the meal to ensure that a child has meal.

Parent Pay is also used by school to pay for school snack and for school trips where appropriate. If a parent has difficulty making payments then they should contact the school immediately.

If a parent/guardian falls behind with any payments then the parent will receive text in the first instance, followed by a letter and subsequent telephone calls. The school will make every effort to accommodate the repayment of outstanding debts. However, if the debt remains then formal steps will be taken to retrieve the outstanding monies. This may include referral to the council's debtor department, the use of licensed agencies and/or court action.

Snack Money

There is an expectation that parents pay for their child's snack which is provided by the school. If snack money is in arrears then the snack debt will be carried over until all monies are paid in full.