

CHARGING POLICY (including Added Value Contributions)

The School Policy is in accordance with the Department of Education and Science Circular No 2/89. A copy of which is available from the school. Further the Governors follow the LA policy on charging and remissions as follows:-

1. The Governors can only ask for voluntary contributions to cover the cost of activities taking place within school hours, such as school visits. However, if contributions do not meet the cost, the whole activity may be cancelled.

If any parent prefers a child not to go on any trip, we will respect those wishes. Likewise, we reserve the right to exclude any child from the trip if there is concern about their behaviour, discipline or safety.

2. The school may also charge for:
 - All optional extras taking place wholly or mainly outside school hours.
 - The cost of materials or ingredients made and kept from Design/Technology lessons.
 - The cost of damage to school property, where this is a result of a pupil's negligence or misbehaviour.
 - All instrumental music lessons except in cases which would result in financial hardship.

Recently, after requests from parents, we set up a system which enables parents to pay for all anticipated costs (not including project week and residential trips) at the outset of the year to avoid repeated requests for money. This year we hope to improve on this scheme to enable parents to set up a standing order to manage the payments more conveniently. An added bonus to this system will be that parents can 'gift aid' this money to school enabling us, as a voluntary aided charity, to claim back the tax which normally goes to the Government. From this tax we will be able to set up a bursary to support pupils who cannot afford to go on school trips and extend the provision of consumable resources used to benefit all pupils' education at St Osmund's.