



Charging Policy November 2026

CEO : Emma Blankley



Last updated: October 2026

1. Introduction

- 1.1 All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the **occasional** exception, of which parents would be notified.

2. Residential visits

- 2.1 If the school organises a residential visit in school time, mainly school time or weekends, which is to provide education generally related to the National Curriculum, the school endeavours to subsidise elements of the visit, including tuition, but we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Any funds that are remaining at the end of the visit are reimbursed to parents/carers.

3. Extra-Curricular Trips and Events

- 3.1 The school is committed to providing a broad and enriching curriculum and aims to offer pupils a range of educational visits, experiences and events throughout the academic year. Wherever possible, we endeavour to provide all children with the opportunity to attend at least three educational visits or enrichment experiences each year. These opportunities are designed to broaden pupils' experiences, enrich the curriculum and develop wider skills such as teamwork, resilience, independence and social development.
- 3.2 The school may request voluntary contributions from parents/carers towards the cost of educational visits, workshops and enrichment activities. No child will be excluded from participating because their parent/carer is unable or unwilling to make a contribution.
- 3.3 However, where there is insufficient funding to cover the cost of an activity, trip or event, the school reserves the right to cancel the activity. Parents/carers will be informed in advance if a proposed visit is dependent upon receiving sufficient voluntary contributions to make it financially viable.

4. Music Tuition

- 4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2 Fern Academy Trust is committed to providing a rich and inclusive music curriculum that enables all pupils to develop their musical knowledge, skills and appreciation. As part of our curriculum offer, specialist music teachers deliver whole-class and year-group music programmes within the school day. These sessions form part of the school's planned music provision and are provided at no additional cost to parents or carers.
- 4.3 In addition, the Trust works with a range of specialist music providers to broaden opportunities for pupils who wish to learn a musical instrument or develop their musical talents further. These providers may offer individual or small-group

tuition before, during, or after the school day. Participation in this additional tuition is voluntary, and any fees are paid directly by parents or carers to the music provider. The school does not charge for, administer, or receive payment for these lessons unless otherwise stated.

5. Swimming

- 5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children from Year 2 to Year 6. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

6. Football/Other Extra-Curricular Activities

- 6.1 The school offers football and other sporting/non sporting activities after school. A member of school staff organises and runs these activities. Sometimes coaches from outside school help with these activities. We do not make any charges for these sessions. Occasionally, organisations offer to run short courses of activities for our children after school, for which a small charge is normally made. Parents are notified prior to these events.