



Over St. John's C.E. Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you with regard to the payment for school trips.

School budgets are stretched further and further year on year and as a result of this, the financial viability of many educational trips and activities are dependent on parental contributions. The school simply cannot afford these otherwise. During the last academic year the shortfall from parental contributions for school trips was over £500, which had to be paid from the school budget. This in turn means that money set aside for school resources had to be used to fund these trips.

When arranging educational visits and activities the school considers costings and works hard to find the lowest cost providers as possible. Each trip is costed as a whole and divided by the number of pupils who will be attending. This cost will include the cost to the provider, plus the cost of transport to get there. There is no cost to parents for staffing the trip.

Of course a voluntary contribution is by definition... voluntary, and the school cannot demand that parents pay for school trips. However, as we are unable to sustain this decrease in parental contributions into the current academic year, the Governing Board have agreed that if the cost is not covered by parental voluntary contributions then the trip will have to be cancelled. The decision to cancel will take place two weeks before the date of the proposed trip, and you will be notified of this decision by text.

The school can make allowance for those who simply cannot afford to contribute and uses some of its Pupil Premium funding to support those who are unable to pay. The school advises those parents who feel they cannot contribute to discuss this on an individual basis with the Headteacher. These discussions take place with the utmost discretion and children are in no way singled out or made aware if their parents cannot contribute.

The Governing Board appreciate your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Sarah McClellan
Chair of Governors

