

UNIVERSITY ACADEMY
LONG SUTTON



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

ACADEMY TRUST

The University Academy Long Sutton

Principal: Liam Davé (B.Sc. Hons.)

Charging Policy

Adopted by The University Academy Long Sutton Governing
Committee: November 2023

To be reviewed every two years
Review date: November 2025

Introduction

All education during Academy hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual or group music tuition.

Voluntary Contributions

- When organising trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the Academy invites parents/carers to contribute to the cost of the trip.
- All contributions are voluntary. Planned activities may be cancelled if financial support is not forthcoming. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents/carers have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.
- General fundraising and sponsorship may be used to permit additional activities.
- Non-uniform days exist in each term and pupils are asked to pay a donation of £1 for the privilege.
- The following is a list of additional activities organized by the Academy, which require voluntary contributions from parents/carers. These activities are known as 'optional extras':

Residential Visits

If the Academy organizes a residential visit, a charge is made to parents/carers to cover the costs of board, lodging and travel expenses. Parents/carers may be asked to meet the full cost of these experiences. Whilst every effort is made to offer value for money, the cost may be quite high. The Academy recognises Section 457 of the Education Act 1996 and acknowledges that where a parent/carer is in receipt of prescribed benefits or allowances, their child is entitled to free board and lodging on a residential trip.

The prescribed benefits are:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £18,725)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (to claim you must) - live in the UK - be aged 18 or over (there are some exceptions if you're 16 to 17) - be under State Pension age - have £16,000 or less in money, savings and investments

As a statutory minimum, the Academy should provide for complete remission of board and lodging charges to pupils whose parents/carers receive the prescribed benefits above if the activity is deemed to take place during 'school' hours, or out of 'school' hours, but is covered by the criteria set out in paragraph 19 of DfES Circular 2/89, i.e. no charge for any activity provided to:

- fulfil any requirements specified in the syllabus for a prescribed public examination.
- specifically fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum.
- specifically fulfil statutory duties relating to Religious Education.

Music Tuition

Financial support is available for some parents/carers whose pupils receive free school meals or are looked after children. All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

However, peripatetic Music teachers are provided on a weekly basis and a charge is made for these lessons.

Information about additional music tuition is available to new parents/carers at the start of each academic year.

- The lessons maybe charged for instrumental tuition to individuals or small groups.
- Each pupil receives a 30 minutes' lesson over the term.

- Parents/carers who have difficulty meeting any charges should discuss the matter in confidence with the Principal.
- Pupils who study for more than one instrument pay the full costs of the additional instrument

Examinations, Assessments and Competitions

Public Examinations (prescribed)

The cost of these examinations is borne by the Academy subject to the following: -

- The pupil has fulfilled all the necessary entry requirements for that examination.
- Professional judgement expects the pupil to have a realistic chance of being graded
- The pupil attends the correct examination sessions or provides the Academy with a Medical Certificate, within 24 hours if possible, explaining why the pupil could not sit the examination. Should the pupil fail to attend, without a valid reason, the Academy will seek to recover the cost of the examination fees.
- If the parent/carer wishes to challenge the examination results of their child, then they must bear the costs

The Governors reserve the right to charge for retakes for external examinations based on the discretion of the senior management of the Academy.

Public Examinations (not prescribed)

Entry for these examinations is entirely at the discretion of the parents/carers who will bear the full cost.

Competitions:

These will fall under the category of Curriculum Enhancement and as such be subject to the following:

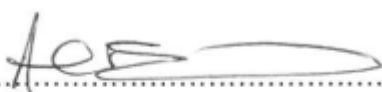
- Activities may be arranged during Academy hours, which, whilst not forming an essential and integral part of the basic curriculum, are nevertheless highly desirable and relevant to the pupils' work in Academy.
- In such cases the Governors will invite parent/carers voluntarily to contribute to the cost of their child's participation.
- Where the number of places for a particular activity is limited, the school may decide which pupils should be given the opportunity to participate. This will take place without reference to the parent's/carer's willingness or ability to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost.
- The Governors reserve the right not to proceed with such an activity if there is insufficient voluntary support.

Transport to Work Experience:

Parents/carers are required to pay for the costs for travel to work experience unless the pupil has a statement in which transport needs are met.

Damage/Loss to Property

Parents/carers will be asked to contribute to costs incurred in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of Academy property (including equipment, books or materials), the charge to be the cost of replacement or repair.

Ratified by:  (Chair of Governors)

Date: 21/11/23