

Woolenwick Junior School

'Positive learning for all'

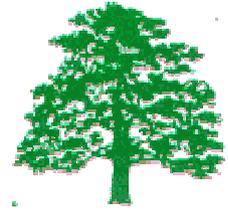
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Thursday, 02 December 2010

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a few queries from parents regarding the costing and charges for School Journeys and Trips. In response to these queries a Frequently Asked Questions list is outlined below.

- A trip is a school outing lasting less than 1 day
- A journey is any trip laid on by the school lasting longer than a day

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does the school make a profit on journeys or trips?

It is important to note that the school is not allowed to, nor does it, profit from any trip or journey.

2. A Website says that the cost of a week/day there starts much cheaper per person. Why is the cost more?

Like any holiday, or outing prices have seasonal variations and differences in courses and accommodation provided. There is then a charge for transport and a sundries charge for items such as administration, first aid, possibly supply teacher cover and supplies. This adds up to the total price.

3. A letter we received initially stated that the cost was expected to be less. Why is it now costing more?

The date of a trip/journey may have to move, which maybe a more expensive week/day. In addition the provider may raise their prices, culminating in a higher final price. We will initially base costings on the prices available at that time. In addition if fewer families have shown an interest a journey/trip that year, this will mean an increase in the coach cost.

4. A letter states that the cost may go up – is there a maximum price?

The coach cost, because it is dependent on the number of children going on the trip/journey, is often the only cost which may go up or down, depending on the number of children going. However we also set a maximum price that we would not expect parents to have to pay. Any more than this and the trip/journey becomes unviable.



5. What do you mean by non-refundable deposit?

The non-refundable deposit, like with most travel firms, means that if a family elect to cancel, the deposit is not refunded. However if the trip is non-viable or cancelled by the school then the deposit would be returned.

6. Your letter states that if we are unable to pay the full price we should talk to you confidentially – if we do this, what options are open to us?

Initially we would discuss the payment schedule and look at ways to extend this. If this was not possible then the school, working with the parents or carer, would look at ways to access support through charitable organisations, social care organisations etc. Other children taking part in the trip do not subsidise other pupils.

I hope this answers any queries you may have had. If it does not, then please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Crabtree
Headteacher

