



Grants Policy, additional information.

The benefits to all children of taking part in experiences beyond their immediate school and home environment are many. Educational experiences, whether they are part of a week-long residential or simply a day visit, can have a very positive impact on children's and young people's:

- educational achievement
- self-esteem
- friendships and relationships (with adults and their peers)
- independence and coping strategies
- confidence and resilience
- team-building and sharing
- personal development
- motivation and behaviour
- knowledge of the world beyond the classroom
- attitudes to learning and to school
- memories of their school experience

Experiences, such as residential visits, provide opportunities which enrich lives, embed learning and develop life skills which can then have an impact on self-development, attitudes to learning, self-esteem and long-term educational achievement. For some children, a residential or similar experience can be a turning point in their school career and have a lasting impact on their self-esteem and motivation and the meaning they attach to school and their own lives. For many children, such events create and remain long-lasting memories of a positive school experience.

We plan to support children from disadvantaged backgrounds and families undergoing financial difficulties in the following ways:

- a school charging policy which recognises equality of opportunity and the legal provisions for children whose parents are receipt of benefits
- use the funding offered via the Pupil Premium
- create a 'hardship' or 'opportunities' fund for disadvantaged families available via the Parents' Association (PTA)
- access funding available from local and national charities

Hardship or Opportunity Funds

We have established a hardship or 'opportunity' fund. This can be an allocation of the school budget or the school's unofficial funds (PTA) which is set aside on an annual basis to provide subsidies and financial support for those parents who are eligible to apply. Eligibility for financial support may not simply be on the basis of Free School Meals but could extend to children and families who are facing other difficulties, including, for example, the recent death of a parent or a parent who is facing a serious illness. It may also extend to children who have faced exceptional family circumstances, or are subject to a Child Protection Plan, for example, but

may not necessarily be entitled to Free School Meals. It may also include families where employment has ceased and the family is in difficulties.

BP Parents Association (PTA)

We have an active Parents' Association which raises additional funds for the school via events such as Christmas and Summer Fairs, quiz nights, social and other events. We have an agreement in place, to make an annual contribution to a fund which either subsidises the cost of a residential for all pupils or provides a subsidy, on application, for families who may be disadvantaged or facing particular circumstances. This is contained within the application form for support.

This policy was approved along with the school journey policy.