



20th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Trips Parent Survey Feedback

Thank you to all the parents who answered our survey about school trips last term. Almost everyone who replied agreed that trips are an important part of learning in school and many of you have wonderful memories of the school trips you had yourself as a child.

Two thirds of parents who responded do not think the cost of trips or visitors are expensive, with many of you stating that you would pay £20 or more for a trip. Unfortunately, however, we have been short on the payments received by many hundreds of pounds for each school trip last academic year.

Trips which support the curriculum cannot be charged for, we can only legally ask for a voluntary contribution. This means that if families choose not to make a contribution, trips may be cancelled if we cannot cover the cost. Many of you understand this. Therefore, instead of reducing the contribution for all children with a school or PTA donation, we will change the costing structure so that children who are eligible for Pupil Premium will be offered a discounted cost (using some of the pupil premium funding we get for them to bridge the gap), and children who are not eligible for Pupil Premium will be asked to make a non-discounted contribution. This will enable us to directly help the families who may need the help most, rather than having to ask all families for extra contributions if the cost of a trip cannot be covered.

To find out if your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, please go to <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals> . Children in families on a low income or in receipt of benefits may be entitled to free school meals and additional support in school.

Also in the survey, two thirds of parents and carers think there should be more fundraising events to support the cost of trips, and almost half said they are prepared to help with these events. Therefore, when we plan events, we will encourage parents to help us where they can with sorting raffle/tombola tickets, wrapping presents etc and as extra helpers at events. Currently there is no active PTA and a small team of just 5 staff members organise the events. We would absolutely welcome more support!

Most of you would like to know the trips for the year in advance and many said you would like to be able to pay in instalments to spread the cost. We aim to set this system up soon as we can and will let you know the details as soon as possible. We hope this will make paying for trips and visitors easier for you to plan for throughout the year. Please be mindful that prices of coaches etc do change over time and prices may increase when we get nearer to the actual dates.

Thank you again for completing the survey and if you have any other thoughts about trips, fundraising events, or being involved with a PTA please do let me know.

Kind regards,

Helen Kemp

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