



Charging Policy

Signed Head teacher:

Lynette Ainslie

Date: 5th May 2017

Date next review due: 5th May 2019

Person/Committee responsible for review: Head teacher

Introduction

Our school endorses this country's Education Act principles of maintaining the right to free education for all children.

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition. However a voluntary contribution may be asked towards any activity should this be necessary.

Voluntary Contributions

The act allows us to request voluntary contributions to broaden children's educational experience. This includes the following:

A trip or residential visit:

Non-contribution would not prejudice a pupil's place however, unless most parents were prepared to make a contribution, the school may have to cancel the activity. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have paid part of, or not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others. Such enriching activities play a vital part in supporting the curriculum.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

Residential trips necessitate a higher level of funding but are invaluable in giving the children first hand educational experiences and in helping them to develop greater self-confidence and awareness of others. Parents who are not in receipt of pupil premium funding provision are obliged to pay the residential expenses for such trips and we also ask all parents to contribute the full cost of the travel and extra activity expenses as these are beyond the scope of our main school budget.

Any parents who are experiencing financial difficulty will be encouraged to approach the school where we will seek to find assistance with the charges. The Governing Body will determine the special circumstances as appropriate, however, in all cases parents will be expected to make a nominal contribution and no child will miss out due to non-contribution unless the trip/visit becomes non-viable.

Voluntary contributions will, in all circumstances, be invited through individual letters to parents.

Out of School Hours Charging

Breakfast Club:

This is a service provided by the school for parents and carers and a charge is made of £2.50 per day. This charge covers the cost of the supervision and a healthy breakfast. Any parent requiring occasional use of this service but for whom the cost is a problem, should approach the school and we will seek to find assistance with the charges. The Governing Body will determine the special circumstances as appropriate,

After School Clubs:

The school asks for **voluntary contributions** (see above) of £4.00 per session for After School activity sessions. This contribution covers snacks and resources and also allows us to pay for external coaches, out of school providers or in-school staff.

Après School:

This is an after-school service provided for parents and carers and a charge is made of £4.00 until 4:45pm, a further £2.00 until 5:15pm and a further £2.00 until 5:45pm. These charges are towards snacks, resources and salaries.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. There is a charge for individual or small-group tuition, which is in addition to curriculum activity and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small group lessons are arranged by parents/carers and taught by a visiting music teacher who makes a charge for these lessons and the billing is done by her. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for Year 1-6 children. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We inform parents/carers when these lessons are to take place. There is no charge to parents/carers.

Damage to school property

The school will cover accidental breakages of school property. Deliberate or wilful acts which result in breakage or damage to school property will be charged for at a rate appropriate to replacement costs.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the Governing Body and will be reviewed in two years or earlier if necessary.