

Introduction

This Charging Policy informs staff and parents about charging for School activities. It conforms to the requirements of the guidance detailed in 'A Guide to the Law for School Governors – Voluntary Aided Schools' Chapter 23, March 2009.

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

Wider Curriculum Opportunities

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. These contributions are voluntary, however if a significant number of parents do not contribute, and the activity cannot be funded by school funds/ allocated budget the activity may have to be cancelled. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

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

The following is a list of additional activities organized by the school, which may require a contribution from parents. These activities are known as '*optional extras*'.

This list is not exhaustive:

- Visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses
- outdoor adventure activities
- visits to the theatre
- musical events
- visiting theatre groups

The school may ask parents to make a contribution towards replacing damaged or lost school property caused wilfully or negligently by their child(ren).

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, donations may be requested and we will always do our best to heavily subsidise such visits. We do not make any charge for the education or travel expenses, however, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. There may well be a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum and if this tuition has been requested by a parent or group of parents.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

Football

The school offers additional football coaching after school. We do not charge for these sessions. We may ask for a small contribution to the cost of transport to events at other venues.

Before/ After School Activities

The school offers a variety of after school activities. There is usually no charge for these sessions unless transport costs to other venues are involved.

A nominal contribution will be requested for those clubs which result in a finished item being taken home (food item, design product etc). Such monies will contribute to the purchase costs of the raw ingredients/ materials and will not exceed the original cost.