



CHARGING POLICY

Introduction

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

School Trips or Visits: Voluntary Contributions

When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents/ carers to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may have to cancel a trip.

If a parent/ carer 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.

The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions 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 or by a theatre company;
- School trips;
- Musical events;
- Residential visits.

Residential Visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education or travel expenses, however, the school invites parents to contribute towards these costs - all contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may have to cancel a residential visit.

For residential visits we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Parents or guardians who are in receipt of the following benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging:

- Income Support (IS);
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA);
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- Child Tax Credit, provided that Working Tax Credit is not also received and the family's income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) does not exceed £16,190;
- the guarantee element of State Pension Credit.

Residential visits that take place mainly or wholly out of school time require parental contributions to go ahead. Families experiencing financial difficulties may approach governors or the Headteacher for help with costs.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. Individual private music tuition is provided by Musical Minds, which is agreed between Musical Minds and parents/ carers. A charge does not apply to the first programme in which the whole class engages with the KS2 programme of Instrument or Vocal Tuition or Wider Opportunities.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stages 1 and 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We therefore make no charge for this activity. However, from September 2013 we will invite parents/ carers to make a voluntary contribution of £5 per year towards the cost of transport to the swimming baths. The school will inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part.

Other Activities

The school offers additional activities run by professional coaches, tutors and teachers. Charges are made for these activities and money is paid directly from parents and guardians to the leaders of these activities.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the Governing Body, and will be reviewed annually or earlier if necessary.

Signed(Chair of Governors)