

## Charging Policy

### Introduction

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 individual or group music tuition.

### Voluntary contributions

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. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. 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 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. A specific budget is allocated each year to meet additional costs.

The following is a list of additional activities organized 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 the theatre or by theatre / musical groups; |
| school trips;                       | musical events  |
| visitors to support the curriculum. |   |

### Residential visits

The school organises a residential visit mainly out of school time, which is to provide education indirectly related to the National Curriculum. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and travel. All parents are requested to make payment for these visits. In the event of financial hardship various charitable groups can be contacted to determine whether financial support can be obtained.

### 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 group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year. (Currently Drums, Keyboard and violin)

### **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, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons. There is a charge for children who join the after school swimming club. This is to cover the cost of hiring the pool and tuition fees.

### **After school sports clubs**

The school offers additional sports coaching after school. YMCA coaches, who are not members of the school staff, run and organizes these sessions. They are currently financed through a Lottery Grant. When the grant is finished it will be necessary to make a charge for these sessions.

### **Out of School Clubs**

We normally charge children if they attend functions organised by the Parents and Friends Association. These charges are made to raise funds for other school activities and take place outside school hours.