

Charging Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1 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.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 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.

The school operates in line with the DFE 'Charging for school activities Departmental advice for governing bodies, school leaders, school staff and local authorities October 2014'.

- 2.2 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, Pupil Premium may be allocated to support the funding. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.
- 2.3 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;
 - school trips abroad;
 - Residential visits
 - Musical events.
 - School trips for Curriculum development
 - Trips to provide additional experiences
 - Workshops in school

3 Residential visits

- 3.1 If the school organises a residential visit a payment plan will be organised with the parents/ carers to cover the cost of residency and transport. Any parents or legal guardians 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 most cases parents will be expected to make a nominal contribution. The Pupil Premium may be used to support funding.

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

4 Music tuition

- 4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2 There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. Where children receive tuition from peripatetic staff, either individually or in a group activity there is a direct contract between the providing organisation and the parent.

5 Extra-Curricular Activities

- 5.1 Many extra curricular activities are run by the staff and are offered free of charge.
- 5.2 The school does offer other Extra Curricular opportunities hosted by external agencies. There may be a charge for participation within these groups. Financial support may be provided for families where payment may be difficult. The Pupil Premium may be used to support these activities.

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6. **Preschool Charges**

Paying Places are available for 2 year olds. Places must be for a minimum of 2 sessions and will be charged at £15 per session. (This is in line with the LA funded places). A schedule of the terms fees will be sent to parents prior to the start of term. All places must be paid for half termly in advance. Failure to make payment in advance will result in the place being withdrawn. The school also accepts childcare vouchers as payment. Parents wishing to pay through the Childcare Vouchers scheme must request arrangements to be set up with the SBM in advance. Notice to cancel a place must be given in writing a half term in advance, and no refunds will be given for the half term.

7. **Dawn Until Dusk**

The School has an SLA in place for Dawn Until Dusk to provide wrap around care. The following charges will apply:

£5 per hour during term time

£50 per day for holiday clubs

Due to the club's cash flow, official invoices will be raised to Dawn Until Dusk in arrears as agreed in the SLA.