



Charging Policy

Introduction

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

Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to make a voluntary donation to cover the cost of the visit. 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 will 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;
- musical events.

Residential visits

The school organises an annual residential visit over a weekend, which provides an outdoor education experience and develops the pupils' social

skills. The cost of this visit has to be covered by parental contributions in order for their child to take part.

If the school organised 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, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Parents may apply to the school office outlining their circumstances if there are difficulties in paying. The governors will decide on a case by case basis what help the school is able to give.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

A peripatetic music teacher visits the school weekly for individual or small-group music tuition. This is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. We do not make a charge for these lessons as they are provided centrally at present. A separate company CAVHMS provides music tuition at a cost. This is an after-school activity and the school only provides the venue. All enquiries are dealt with by the company.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Years 3-6.

This is run by the local authority as an intensive programme to ensure that pupils are able to swim by the end of the key stage. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We therefore make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.