

# **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 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.

If parents are unable to make a voluntary contribution we ask that parents speak with the Head teacher confidentially.

## **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, we do not make any charge for the education. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and travel. Parents who receive state benefits are exempt from payment.

## **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. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

## **Necessitous clothing**

Uniform plays an important role in giving the children a sense of belonging and pride in their school and provides a practical set of clothes appropriate for school life.

Families on Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance or the equivalent, qualify for the provision of one sweatshirt and one polo shirt per child annually without cost to themselves. Families are asked to contact the school office if the conditions relating to this remission of charge applies to them and provide evidence to qualify.

Any application will be treated in confidence. There will not be an option of money being given instead of clothing.

### **Swimming**

The school organises swimming lessons for all children. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. 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. A donation is requested towards the cost of the pool, swimming teachers, lifeguards and transport.

### **Design Technology and Craft**

The school may make a charge to cover the cost of materials or ingredients used in Design Technology or Craft lessons.

The school may make a charge for the cost of damage to or loss of school property, where this is the result of a pupil's negligence or misbehaviour.

### **Travel**

Parents are asked to make a voluntary contribution towards the costs of travel – see section 2 “Voluntary contributions”.