



Boarshaw Community Primary School

Charging Policy

BOARSHAW PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHARGING POLICY

Statement of intent and general policy.

Education during school hours is free. We do not charge for general activities undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. Certain activities are classified as outside of the requirements of the National Curriculum and for these activities charges are made. This policy clarifies for which activities charges or voluntary contributions are made.

For the purpose of this policy, 'parents' refer to those who have responsibility for the care of individual children at Boarshaw Community Primary School.

Objectives

The following policy objectives set by the Governors can be stated as:

- To ensure all charges are applied in a consistent and fair way
- To ensure that the circumstances under which voluntary contributions are requested are fair and consistent
- To define those activities where charges are made.

Voluntary Contributions

When organising educational visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the visit. All contributions are voluntary. If a parent wishes their child to take part in the visit or event, but is unwilling or unable to make the voluntary contribution the child will still fully participate in the visit, if the parent wishes them to. However, if the school does not receive sufficient contributions the visit may have to be cancelled.

Suggested contributions are set such that the cost of the trip is covered by the number of children on the visit, however in some circumstances the school will subsidise visits. All costs are calculated based on admission cost, transport costs and staff costs are not taken into account, even where visits are outside of normal school hours.

The school provides information to parents about how visits are funded, on request, but does not provide information about individual parental contributions.

The following is a list of activities that the school may organise for which voluntary contributions for parents may be requested (this list is not exhaustive):

- Visits to museums
- Theatre visits
- Visits to educational venues eg. Aquariums, farms etc
- Music events
- Sporting events

Activities incurring charges

Certain visits and activities are seen as additions to the Curriculum and therefore it is a choice by parents as to whether children engage in the activity. The school can deliver all aspects of the Curriculum without the need to provide these activities, however many parents feel these activities offer additional benefits to the development of their child.

In the main these activities require expert tuition. Given the optional nature of these activities the school does incur charges for providing these activities which are passed to the parents' of children wishing to participate. All charges are on an actual cost basis.

Residential visits .

The school organises 2 residential visits for children in Key Stage 2. One is an adventure based residential the other is a coastal town visit. The visits provide pupils with the opportunity to develop independence, risk taking and co operation skills.

The residentials are subsidised by school with parents asked to contribute towards the costs of food, lodgings and organised activities. Every effort is made to ensure that the best value and highest possible safety standards are maintained. Parents are asked to commit to a deposit and then given a payment plan over several months to pay the full amount. Deposits are non-refundable.

Children, whose parents chose for them not to attend the visit, be it for financial or other reasons, will be accommodated in school with other activities.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the National Curriculum, no charge is made for any of the activities associated with the Curriculum.

School Meals and Breakfast Club.

All children who uses these services (unless eligible for free school meals) do so on a paid basis. The costs for these services are kept to a minimum as the school makes no profit on these services. Parents are expected to make payments in line with the set charges and to keep all accounts in order so as not to adversely impact on school finances.

Activities Not incurring Charges.

Certain activities do not incur any charge or request for voluntary contributions from parents.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in Year 5. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. No charge or contribution is made for these lessons. All children require written parental consent before participating in these lessons.

Sports activities

National Curriculum Physical Education activities are provided without charge or contribution for all pupils. Sports clubs organised by school staff and by the sports coaches are provided free of charge.

Other charges

The Governing Body may ask parents to pay for damage to school property or equipment where this is a result of pupil behaviour. A charge is also levied for lost reading books / library books and resources in the Maths/ English lending libraries.

This policy is approved and reviewed as follows:

Policy signed by :

Approval date:

Adopted by : Resources Committee

Adoption date:

FGB approval :

Next policy review date: September 2025 (unless there are significant alterations prior to this date.)