Springfield Primary Academy



**Charging Policy**



# Introduction

Springfield Primary Academy recognises the valuable contribution a wide range of additional activities, including visits, clubs and residential experiences can make towards pupils’ education. Our aim is that all children should have access to these opportunities and that we act sympathetically and supportively towards families who may not be able to afford to pay for extra-curricular activities for which independent providers charge. The Governing Body aims to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils of the school and as additional optional activities.

Parents have a right to know how the school determines the amount that is requested as a voluntary contribution for each educational visit or activity. The school will provide this information on request.

All of the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to Parents/Carers. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

# Contributions

When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children the school asks parents and carers to contribute to the cost, which is supplemented by school funds. We will inform parents of the full cost of school visits and the supplemented cost to them.

If a parent/carer wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event and is unable to make the full contribution the school will offer for the parent/carer to pay by instalments over a short period.

If a visit or event is free of charge we will ask for a nominal contribution towards the cost of transport. For visits and events that carry an admission charge, the school will calculate the total cost including transport and ask parents/carers for reasonable contribution.

# Residential Visits

If the school organises 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 suggest a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging, although parents and carers who receive state benefits are exempt from this charge. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways.

*“Schools can charge for the cost of board and lodgings during overnight school trips, but the charge may not be more than the accommodation actually costs.*

*Where the visit is wholly or mainly during school hours, parents who get the following benefits aren't required to pay any charge for board and lodgings:*

* *Income Support*
* *Income-based Job Seekers Allowance*
* *Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
* *Child Tax Credit provided the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income does not exceed £16,190 Guaranteed State Pension Credit” Direct.gov.uk*



# 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 small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. We make a charge for these lessons and instrument hire.

# 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. Parents and carers are informed when these lessons are to take place, and we seek the written permission of parents or carers for their children to take part.

# After School Clubs/Activities

The school offers after school clubs and activities when possible. Clubs may be organised and run by school staff or external providers. Depending on the cost of the provision there may be a small charge for pupils to attend but this will always be subsidised for those in receipt of Pupil Premium funding.

As part of the Pupil Premium funding those pupils eligible for this grant (i.e. those entitled to free school meals) will have school activities paid for.

**Letting of school premises**

The school will make its facilities available to outside users at a charge of at least the cost of providing the facilities. The scale of charges is determined annually by the Governing Body and details are in our separate Lettings Policy.

Reviewed May 2023