

**Charging Policy**

**January 2024**

**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.

**1.** **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 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. 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 organized by the school, which may 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;

* visitors in to school;

• school residential visits;

• musical events.

**3. Food and drink**

* All infant pupils get free school meals. Junior children are charged for this service.
* Infant children are entitled to free fruit at break time and parents have an option to buy milk for their children also.
* Toast and milk is sold at break times for junior children (although this is on hold temporarily).

**4. After-School Clubs**

* The school will endeavour to offer children a range of optional extra-curricular activities to widen their experiences. They are organised and run by members of the local community and school staff. The school makes a small charge for each session. Parents with financial difficulties whose children wish to participate will be invited to discuss individual needs with the Headteacher.
* **Other after-school clubs are put on by external providers and will incur a charge.**

**5. Music Tuition**

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. However, additional tuition from private tutors will be offered to parents and children at a charge.

**6. Breakages and Lost or Damaged Books**

Where a child’s actions incur extra costs to the school, by breakage of equipment, damage to premises, loss or damage to text books or library books, parents will be invited to pay a contribution to cover the whole or part of the cost.

**7. Families qualifying for help with charges**

Remission for charges and voluntary contributions will normally be made for parents of children in receipt of Pupil Premium. Details of how to apply for Pupil Premium are available from the school office. The position of any parents in this situation must be made clear to the school and updated as necessary, for this remission to be effected. Other extenuating circumstances may be considered for remission of charges/contributions upon application to the Head Teacher. These matters will be treated confidentially.

**8. Swimming**

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Year 4. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. 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.

**9. Monitoring and review**

This policy is monitored by the governing body, and will be reviewed every three years, or earlier if necessary.

**10. 30 Hours Nursery Funding**

For children who fulfil the government eligibility criteria and who are in receipt of 30 hours free entitlement they will be offered sessions that run from 8:30am to 3:30pm Monday to Friday. Not included in these hours is a daily 45 minute lunchtime session, which is available for parents to select for a daily charge (reviewed annually) - parents must provide a packed lunch. For parents who purchase top up Nursery sessions, additional half-day sessions are chargeable (charges reviewed annually).

Approved: Spring 2024

Review: Spring 2027

Chair of finance: ***Karen Smyth***

Headteacher: ***Simon Parker***