

St. Benet's RC Primary School



Policy on Charging

1 Introduction

- 1.1 All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. 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.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents and carers to contribute to the cost. 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 or carers have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.
- 2.2 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 and carers have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request.
- 2.3 The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents and carers. These activities are known as 'curriculum enhancing visits'. This list is not exhaustive:
- visits to museums;
 - sporting activities which require transport expenses;
 - outdoor adventure activities;
 - visits to or by a theatre company;
 - school trips abroad;
 - musical events.

3 Residential visits

- 3.1 The school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, to Derwent Hill each year. We do suggest a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging, and travel costs although parents and carers of pupils who receive free school meals can be subsidised by school. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these parental contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways.
- 3.2 We may organise residential visits abroad and in the UK, at any time in the future, and the same applies as in section 3.2.

4 Music tuition

- 4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2 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, but parents and carers of pupils in receipt of free school meals are exempt from payment. We give parents and carers information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

- 5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Lower Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity, however we ask for a voluntary contribution from parents and carers to cover the cost of transport. As in section 2, this is entirely voluntary and children still attend if their parents chose not to contribute.

6 Before and After School Clubs

- 6.1 Sometimes the school offers additional clubs before and after school. Qualified coaches/teachers, who are not members of the school staff, run and organise these sessions. We make small charges for these sessions.
- 6.2 Other sessions organised by staff members are free of charge.

7 Monitoring and review

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

N.B. Anyone needing to discuss any issues regarding charging please do not hesitate to contact Ann Blakey, Headteacher.

Review Date – Spring 2023

Next review date: Spring 2025

Present to governors – Spring 2023

Person in charge: Ann Blakey