



Charging Policy

<p>School Aim Statement:</p>	<p>Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the church at parish and diocesan level.</p> <p>The Christian Faith, and its practical expression, form a major part of the whole school ethos. The school aims to give children both knowledge and understanding of the Christian Faith while respecting and understanding other religions and cultures.</p> <p>The school aims to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that all children receive their entitlement to a broad, balanced National Curriculum, encouraging them to have high expectations in all areas of the curriculum and to reach their full potential. • provide a secure and relaxed environment in which the children are encouraged to have a healthy lifestyle, to be tolerant and to grow in confidence and self-esteem. • ensure that pupils develop an open and enquiring mind and are encouraged to be creative, imaginative and inventive. • work in partnership with parents and the wider community.
<p>Review History:</p>	<p>Review: June 2009, Jan 2011, Jan 2013, June 2016 Next review: January 2019</p>
<p>Issue Date:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 2016</p>

The following policy statement has been compiled in accordance with sections 449-462 of the Education Act 1996 and DfE Advice Charging for school activities October 2014.

This statement conforms to the following objectives of the 1996 Act:

- To maintain the right to free school education subject to limited exceptions detailed later, including the supply of materials, books, instruments or other equipment.
- Parents on low incomes and in receipt of benefits listed later, should be informed of the support available to them when asked for contributions towards the cost of school trips.
- To establish what activities offered wholly or mainly during normal teaching time should be available to all pupils regardless of their parent's ability or willingness to pay.
- To establish that the school has the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly outside school hours.
- To establish that the school has the right to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school whether during or outside school hours.

(School hours are 8.50a.m. to 12.30p.m. and 1.30p.m. to 3.30p.m.)

Education during school hours

No charges will be levied by the school in respect of any trip, visit, or event organised wholly or mainly within the school day. However, the school will invite parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of travel, entrance fees, insurance etc. There is no obligation to contribute and children registered at the school will be treated no differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution in response to this request. Practical subjects which require materials or ingredients (e.g. technology or cookery) will be free of charge. Parents who are willing to contribute in cash or in kind may do so. Once again children whose parents make no such contribution will be treated no differently from those who do.

Charges for materials will only be made where the parents have indicated in advance that they wish to own the finished product. Where the places for one of the above activities are limited, the decision regarding which pupils participate will be made without reference to parents' willingness or ability to pay.

The Governors feel it necessary to stress that the enrichment activities outlined above could only continue if voluntary contributions from parents cover the cost of the school's expenses. If such voluntary contributions were not forthcoming it would be financially impractical to offer the pupils the present range of educational and social experiences.

The cost of optional extras may include: materials, books, equipment, buildings and accommodation, non-teaching staff, teaching staff engaged to provide the optional extra, inc supply teachers and peripatetic music teachers.

Charges made in respect of individual pupils will not exceed the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally between the number of pupils participating. It will not include an element of subsidy for other pupils wishing to take part whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge.

Education provided wholly or mainly outside school hours

Activities provided wholly or mainly outside school hours may be planned by staff willing to undertake such ventures. These activities may range from after school sporting activity or after school club to a residential activity lasting a number of days.

The governors reserve the right to charge for such optional extras up to an amount that does not exceed the actual cost of organising the activity. Participation in such events will be optional and agreement from the child's parents will be sought in advance.

Tuition in the playing of a musical instrument

The Governing Body has no obligation to provide individual musical tuition. However, if such tuition does occur, the governors reserve the right to make charges to cover the costs provided the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent. (Charges for Music Tuition (England) Regulations 2007). No charge will be made for children looked after by the local authority.

Swimming lessons

The school cannot charge for the cost of swimming tuition or transport to the swimming pool. However a voluntary contribution to cover the cost can be requested. If insufficient funds are raised pupils will not be able to go swimming.

School trips

The school cannot charge for the cost of curriculum based trips in school time. However a voluntary contribution to cover the cost can be requested. If insufficient funds are raised pupils will not be able to go on the trip.

School meals

Parents requesting a school meal for their child will be required to pay a charge sufficient to cover the costs involved in the school providing the meal. Payment is via parent pay.

Residential visits

School will charge for the cost of board and lodging in addition to additional staff, transport and materials. Parents who can prove that they are in receipt of the following benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging:

- Universal credit
- Income support

- Income based jobseekers allowance
- Support under part VI of the immigration and asylum act 1999
- Child tax credit, provide working tax credit is also not received and the family's income does not exceed £16,190 (financial year 2013/14)
- An income related employment and support allowance that was introduced in Oct 2008.

These benefits are aligned with the eligibility for Free school meals. The school will inform parents of the right to claim free board and lodging if they receive this benefit

Parents in receipt of low income may approach the school for financial support, in such cases the school may approach a local charity to request support.

Breakages and fines

The governors reserve the right to ask parents to pay the cost of replacing school equipment if such equipment is damaged, defaced or lost as a result of a pupil's misbehaviour.

This document is only intended to cover those aspects of the legislation relevant to this school. If any parent requires more detailed information, an explanatory circular D.E.S. 2/89 relating to the provisions of the 1988 Act can be viewed at the school.

Revisions 2011: None

2013: None

2016 – change to education act 1996, inclusion of info regarding, trips, free school meals, swimming.