

Long Buckby Infant School POLICY FOR CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Background

The objectives of the charging provisions in the Education Reform Act 1988 are:

- To maintain the right to free school education.
- To establish that activities offered wholly or mainly during normal teaching time should be available to all pupils regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
- To emphasise that there is no statutory requirement to charge for any form of education or related activity, but to give schools the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours.
- To confirm the right of schools to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school, or in support of any activity organised by the school, during school hours.

Introduction

The Education Act of 1996 sets out the law on charging for school activities in schools maintained by the local authority.

The restrictions on charging for school activities do not in any way restrict or prohibit the school from seeking voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of any school activity during school hours.

We aim to provide a broad, balanced curriculum for all pupils within our care.

The school will not charge for:

- an admission application to the school
- education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)
- education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education
- tuition for pupils learning to play musical instruments if the tuition is required as part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education
- transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local education authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport
- transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing body or local education authority has arranged for pupils to be educated

- transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he has been prepared for that examination at the school

Optional Extras

Charges may be made for some activities that are known as “optional extras”. Where an optional extra is being provided, a charge **can** be made for providing materials, books, instruments, or equipment. **Optional extras are:**

- education provided outside of school time that is not:
 - a) part of the National Curriculum
 - b) part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school
 - c) part of religious education.
- examination entry fee(s) if the registered pupil has not been prepared for the examination(s) at the school;
- transport that is not required to take the pupil to school or to other premises where the local authority/governing body have arranged for the pupil to be provided with education

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. Every effort will be made to keep these costs reasonable. However, where voluntary contributions are insufficient the visit or activity may be cancelled.

In certain circumstances (e.g. where children are eligible for pupil premium) financial assistance may be provided at the discretion of the Headteacher and subject to the availability of funds.

Under no circumstances will a child be excluded if a parent does not pay or cannot afford to do so.

Damage to School Property

In the case of deliberate breakage or damage of property, the Governors reserve the right to request the proportionate cost of repair and replacement.

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 group music tuition (where offered) if this is not part of the National Curriculum.

School Lettings

The school uses the recommended scale of charges as laid down by the Local Education Authority. However, any 'one off' requests made by the local community are regarded sympathetically and considered individually at the appropriate time by the Headteacher as per the scheme of delegation.

Private Photocopying

The price of private photocopying has been set at 5p per copy for mono and 10p per copy for colour.

Private Telephone Calls

The Governors recognise that staff need to use the office telephone to make necessary phone calls during the working day. No charge is made for these calls.

Review Arrangements

Governors will monitor the implementation of this policy through sub-committee and full governing body meetings. This policy will be reviewed on the specified review date or earlier if necessary

Sub Committee Reviewed (date) <i>June 2018</i>	Signed (Headteacher) <i>Sarah Dugdale</i>
Full Governing Body Ratified (date) <i>July 2018</i>	Signed (Chair of Governors) <i>Cei Davies Linn</i>
Review Date	<i>July 2019</i>