

Eastborough Junior, Infant and Nursery School



Charging Policy

Reviewed: November 2018
Due for review: November 2019

At Eastborough School we want to provide a range of experiences which add excitement and enjoyment to our children's learning and personal development. All our pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school visits, curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Many of these activities have a cost associated with them and, unfortunately, cannot be provided unless we ask parents for voluntary contributions and, in some cases, make a charge. However, there are some strict rules we have to abide by. Our charging policy, which has been agreed by governors, sets out what we will charge for, how we will try to make it manageable for parents and how we will help parents with limited incomes.

Voluntary Contributions

We cannot charge for activities which are part of the normal school day or part of the National Curriculum, but we can ask for **voluntary** contributions to cover charges which include:

- ❖ Transport to swimming sessions
- ❖ Transport on trips
- ❖ Admission charges

Why do we need to ask for voluntary contributions?

We want to offer a wide range of activities to broaden your child's experience, but we can't afford to do everything we would wish without help from parents.

What happens if I am unwilling to pay?

Your contribution is voluntary. Your child will not be excluded from the activity.

BUT, if we do not receive enough voluntary contributions we may have to cancel the activity.

Will my voluntary contribution pay for people who have not paid?

No. The amount we ask in voluntary contribution must not exceed the actual cost of the activity per pupil.

What about activities which are not part of the curriculum?

Sometimes there may be activities which we think our pupils would benefit from but are not strictly part of the curriculum and something that the school is unable to pay for out of the main budget. These are referred to as 'optional extras', and could include specialist teachers coming in to teach sport, drama or music. If a charge is to be made for this particular type of activity, we will inform parents how the charge will be worked out and who may qualify for help with the cost. We will inform parents and carers that this is a non-compulsory activity. Again, a child will not be excluded from these activities should parents not be able to pay, but we may have to cancel the activity if insufficient funds are not received.

Music Tuition

Although the law states that all education provided during school hours must be free, music lessons are an exception to this rule.

Instrument lessons are offered by Kirklees Music School. These lessons are not part of the curriculum, and the full cost must be met by the parent/carer.

We promise that:

We will tell you at the outset if the activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions.

We shall give as much notice as possible of any activities which will require voluntary contributions. Parent Pay will be set up for payments to be made.

We will not treat children of parents who do not contribute any differently.

We encourage parents to speak to the Head Teacher should they have any concerns over funding or payments.

For visits which the school considers a 'significant cost', payment plans will be set up and parents notified of this.