



Charging Policy

Mrs Jamalizadeh

Date of Policy: Summer 2016

Date to be reviewed: Summer 2017



St Margaret Clitherow's School Charging Policy



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 some individual or small-group music tuition, purchasing of specialist equipment and occasions when we are accessing a community service such as the local gym.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

St Margaret Clitherow's Primary School endorses the principle of the 1988 Education Act in maintaining the right to free education for all children. The act allows us to request voluntary contributions to broaden children's education experience. Non-contributions would not prejudice a pupil's place.

However, unless most parents were prepared to make a contribution, the school may have to cancel the activity. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school can provide this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These are known as 'optional extras'. (The list is not exhaustive.)

- Visits to galleries or museums
- Sporting activities which require transport
- Sporting activities with external tuition
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to or by a theatre company / expert / performer (though the school pays for these, where possible)
- Musical events

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

Such trips necessitate a higher level of funding, but are invaluable in giving the children first hand experiences, and in helping them to develop greater self-confidence and awareness of others. The trips are always part funded by the school, and pupil premium is used to reduce costs and where necessary to pay for individuals who may be experiencing difficulty. Most parents are obliged to at least pay for the residential expenses in such trips, and we also ask parents to contribute to the cost of the travel and activity expenses, as these are beyond the scope of our main school budget. A savings scheme operates, where possible, to spread the cost over a period of time.

Any parents who are experiencing financial difficulty will be encouraged to approach the school, where we will seek to find assistance with the charges. The Governing Body will determine the special circumstances as appropriate. However, in all cases, parents will be expected to make a nominal contribution.

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 small group tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. Tuition is given by peripatetic music teachers, from agencies such as Tees Valley Music. They make a charge for these lessons. We give parents details about additional music tuition at the beginning of the academic year.

ICT

Parents will have the opportunity to purchase technical equipment to support their child/children's learning and also use the devices at home. There will be a monthly payment scheme set up to support this. This is not a compulsory scheme; therefore parents have a choice about whether or not they want to purchase the equipment.

SWIMMING

The school organises swimming lessons for a target year group – currently Year 4. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We therefore make no charge for these. Parents are informed when these are to take place.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast club is offered from 7.45 to 8.45am. For current charges, please contact the school.

PROVISION OF INFORMATION

When there is a request for information, there may be charges made. See the school's Guide to Information under the Freedom of Information Act Publication Scheme for details.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy is monitored by governors and will be reviewed again this time next year.

Date agreed by the Committee

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