

## **Charging Policy – October 2016**

### **Introduction**

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

### **Voluntary contributions for activities as part of the Curriculum**

When organising school trips, visits or workshop activities which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the activity. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel the activity. 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, the child is still allowed to participate fully in the trip or activity as long as parental consent has been given. If appropriate and funds allow, the school may pay a proportion of the costs in order to support a visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded.

### **Music Tuition**

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. Extra-curricular clubs such as choir or recorder are also without charge.

### **Optional Extra Activities**

(Activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours and are not required in order to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum or to Religious Education)

It is the governors' policy to charge for such activities organised by the school. The basis for calculating the charge will be proportionate for each participating pupil for travel, board & lodging, materials, books, equipment, entrance fees and insurance.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:

- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- school trips abroad;
- musical events

### **Activities not run by the School or Nottinghamshire Local Authority**

When an organisation acting independently of the school or LA arranges an activity to take place during school hours and parents want their children to join the activity, such organisation may charge parents.

### **Residential Visits**

If the school organises a residential visit the cost of this trip includes board & lodging, transport, materials, entrance to any sites visited and charges for any activities to be experienced.

Where available, sponsorship will be provided for children of families on forms of means tested benefits or in special circumstances to enable them to take part in the option of their choice. This is stated clearly on letters and is dealt with discretely and in confidence by the Head Teacher. Parents will be given the option of a payment plan to spread the costs of any residential visit.

### **Charging in Kind**

The cost of ingredients, materials, equipment etc. needed for practical subjects such as food technology or DT is budgeted for and borne by the school. However, the school may charge for or require the supply of ingredients and materials if the product is to be owned and taken home by the child afterwards e.g. food products, models containing electrical equipment or batteries. The school will inform parents prior to activities, giving them the choice to pay for materials or purchase their own materials for the activity.

### **Breakages & Fines**

The Governors reserve the right to ask parents to pay for the cost of replacing any item such as:

- broken windows
- defaced, damaged or lost text books
- replacement reading or homework diaries
- any item damaged as a result of unsatisfactory pupil behaviour.

### **Special Needs**

The governing body confirms that no pupil with special needs or disabilities will be treated any differently than any other pupil. The school will take all reasonable steps to avoid putting children with special needs at a disadvantage.

### **Review**

There will be an annual review of this policy by the full governing body.