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Charging & Remissions Policy

This policy will be reviewed and updated in autumn 2020.

Introduction

In accordance with Section 449-462 of the Education Act 1996, the Governing Body make no charge for education or educational activities provided during school hours as part of the published curriculum. However, the Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities can make towards the personal and social education of pupils. The Governing Body therefore reserve the right to levy charges for the following activities arranged by the school, which will not exceed the actual cost of the activity.

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

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses
- outdoor adventure activities
- visits to or by a theatre company
- school trips abroad
- musical events
- residential visits

Optional extra activities outside of school hours

The full cost for activities which take place out of school hours may be charged to parents provided that they are not a necessary part of the National Curriculum or religious education, where no charge will be made. In fixing the charge the school may take account of the costs for travel, supervisory staff, and associated supply cover.

Charges may be made for after school clubs where additional resources are necessary and have to be purchased in order for activities to take place e.g. Cookery Club, Art Club etc.

Residential visits partly or fully during school hours

No charge will be made for such visits other than board and lodging charges. The Governors recognise that they will provide full remission from the charge for board and lodging to pupils whose families are in receipt of the following: Pupil Premium Funding or suffering extreme financial hardship.

Where activities are organised and charged by a third party e.g. independent tour operator, the school may provide for full or partial remission charges.

Voluntary Contributions

When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

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, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request.

If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education or travel expenses. However, we do suggest a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these charges, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. Individual or small-group music tuition is available upon parental request, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum there would be a charge. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. Although there would be a charge for these lessons, parents in receipt of state benefits would be charged and then reimbursed at the end of a term.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum for children in Key stage. We request parents pay a voluntary contribution towards costs.

Signed_____Headteacher

Signed_____Chair of Governors