



St. Peter's C.E. Primary School

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Policy: Charging for school trips and activities

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 individual or group music tuition.

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. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel the activity. If an activity 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, as long as parental consent has been given.

If appropriate 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 are without charge.

There may be charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. This charge is paid directly to the company by the parent, which provides the peripatetic music teachers to teach individuals or small group lessons on the school site.

Parents in the appropriate year groups are given information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.



If parents are experiencing financial difficulty, they are invited to write in confidence to the headteacher.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for majority of children in Key Stage 2, this is an annual decision. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

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. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place and we ask for their written permission for their child to take part in the lessons).

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

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

- Sporting activities which require transport expenses
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to the theatre
- Musical events

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board, lodging and travel expenses. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to write in confidence to the headteacher.

Where possible, sponsorship will be sought for PP children to enable them to take part in residential visits.

All parents will be given the option of a payment plan to spread the cost of the 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 and fines

The school reserves the right to ask parents to pay for the cost of replacing any item, such as:

- Broken windows
- Defaces, damaged or lost text or reading books
- Replacement reading books
- Defaced pupil workbooks
- Any item damaged as a result of unsatisfactory pupil behaviour

Special Needs

The school 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 educational needs at a substantial disadvantage.

Exceptions

There may be exceptional circumstances where the Head teacher may make an exception on payment which would normally be expected under this charging policy.

Review

Annually from February 2025

Reviewed June 08

Reviewed Oct 09

Shared with Gofs Oct 09

Shared with Gofs Nov 10

Shared with Gofs finance committee May 13

Revised and reviewed March 2017

Revised and reviewed October 2023 - Governor finance committee

Revised and reviewed February 2025

Shared with Governor finance committee Feb 2025



