



St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe Community Primary School

Charging Policy

Date: January 2024

Reviewed and Ratified By: Governing body on 18th January 2024

Review Date: Annually - January 2025

Signed : _____ Helen King, Chair of Governors

Signed : _____ Helen Comfort, Executive Headteacher

Equality

We recognise our duty and responsibility to establish equality for all pupils, staff, other members of the school community and service users regardless of their ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or beliefs as defined within existing equalities legislation (please see 'Equality Scheme').

1 Introduction

1.1 All education during school hours is free. We do not enforce a charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual or group music tuition, extra sporting activities, extra-curricular clubs and special events.

2 Voluntary contributions

2.1 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 reserve the right to 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.

2.2 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. The school provides this information on request.

2.3 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;
theatre visits;
school trips (day/residential and abroad);
musical events.

3 Residential visits

3.1 If, to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, no charge is made for the education. However, we do make a charge to cover board and lodging and travel costs.

4 Music tuition

4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

4.2 There is a charge for individual or group music tuition as this is not part of the National Curriculum and is facilitated by an outside provider. The

peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. 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 and for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of the swimming coach.