

**SOUTHROP C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL**

# **CHARGING POLICY**

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## **CHARGING POLICY**

**November 2019**

### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for most activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

### **2.0 Voluntary contributions**

- 2.1 When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents and carers 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 or carers 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 and carers have a right to know how each trip is funded, and 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 and carers. 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.

### **3.0 Residential visits**

- 3.1 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, although parents and carers who receive state benefits are exempt from this charge. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways.
- 3.2 Where there are exception circumstances e.g. multiple children attending the trip, low income family, where a family is unable to contribute the full amount, parents are encouraged to approach the Co-Head teachers for financial support which could come from school funds or pupil premium money,

## **4.0 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 small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. A charge for these lessons directly by the teacher to the parent, but parents and carers in receipt of state benefits are entitled to a bursary or other financial assistance from the school. We give parents and carers information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

## **5.0 Swimming**

- 5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Year 2 and 3, plus other children who need swimming lessons. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity, but we do ask for a voluntary contribution from parents and carers to cover the cost of transport. We inform parents and carers when these lessons are to take place, and we seek the written permission of parents or carers for their children to take part.

## **6.0 After School Clubs**

- 6.1 The school offers an after school childcare facility. This is outside the curriculum and is offered on a commercial basis. The current charges can be provided on request to the school office.

## **7.0 PTA Support**

- 7.1 Occasionally the PTA is able to make a significant contribution to the costs of providing an activity (such as paying the cost of a coach to transport the pupils). In such circumstances, the Co - Head Teacher will inform parents/carers of such contributions when asking for parents/carers to voluntarily contribute to meet the remaining costs.

## **8.0 Equalities.**

- 8.1 This policy has been written to take into account the needs of all regardless of age, disability, race, religion, belief and gender. In respect of adults this list also includes gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity or paternity and sexual orientation.

## **9.0 Values.**

- 9.1 Our twelve school values underpin the life of the whole school community. Those particularly pertinent to charging are:

Generosity. We seek to be generous when we offer financial help to those families which need it.

Compassion. We will be compassionate for those who are less well off and can benefit from our support.

## **10.0 Monitoring and review**

- 10.1 This policy is monitored by the governing body, and will be reviewed every two years, or earlier if necessary.