

Cowling Community Primary School

Charging Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 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.

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 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.

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 organized 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 the theatre;
- residential Trips;
- musical events.

3 Residential visits

3.1 We organise an annual residential visit in school time at an Outward Bounds Centre, 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 and lodging and travel expenses. Parents who receive state benefits are exempt from payment.

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 if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

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5 Swimming

5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children in years 3 & 4 and non swimmers in years 5 & 6. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make a small 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.

6 Other Out of School Activities

6.1 The school offers a range of out of school activities. Most are run by school staff for which there is no charge. However, sometimes we have outside coaching, for which there is a small charge.

Exceptions:

Parents and Carers are urged to contact the headteacher in confidence to discuss individual circumstances should parents have concerns regarding charges.

Headteacher