

GREAT WISHFORD C.E. (V.A.) 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 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 families 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 families have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

2.2 If a parent or carer wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unable to make a voluntary contribution due to genuine financial hardship, we allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. The school may pay a share of the costs in order to support the visit if the family is unable to pay the full amount. Families 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 families. 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;
- school trips abroad;
- musical events.

3 Residential visits

3.1 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 charge for the education and travel expenses. We also make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. We receive Pupil Premium monies to fund participation for those families who are in receipt of some state benefits. Full details of how we spend Pupil Premium are available on the school's website.

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 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. Families in receipt of state benefits are notified of a local charity ' Children's Chance' who may pay for music lessons and the school supports applications. We give families information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year. Families are requested to pay for lessons prior to them starting.

5 Swimming

5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for children in Year 1 and 2 and Year 3 and 4 on a rota basis. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. However, costs of additional life-guards and travel are paid by families who make a weekly contribution. We inform families when these lessons are to take place, and we ask families for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

6 Football

6.1 The school offers additional football coaching after school. A qualified FA coach, who is not a member of the school staff, runs and organises these sessions and there is a charge for these sessions.

7 Community use of School Facilities

7.1 Charges for use of any of the school facilities allocated for Community use, will be set with due regard to charges for similar facilities within the local area.

Success Criteria.

We know that this charging policy is effective and embedded in our practice when:

- All families know that there is no obligation to contribute when voluntary contributions are sought and that all pupils will be treated alike, whether or not their families have made any contribution in response to the request.
- All children can participate in vivid learning opportunities regardless of their family's ability to pay for them.
- Those families who are identified as being financially vulnerable will be supported with Pupil Premium.
- All families know that all applications for financial support will be treated confidentially and fairly.