

Park Street C of E Primary School & Nursery

Together we Learn



Together with God

Policy for Charging for School Activities

Version	1.0
Name/Department of originator/author:	
Name/Title of responsible committee/individual:	Resources Committee
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Target audience:	Headteachers and Governors

The governing body shall conduct the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement.

Park Street Primary School is committed to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between different groups. These factors were considered in the formation and review of this policy and will be adhered to in its implementation and application across the whole school community.

Park Street Primary School will promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and will actively challenge any member of the school community expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

Version	Date	Notes
1.0	15/12/2015	Approved by Resources Committee

The Local Authority or Governing Body may not charge for anything unless they have drawn up a statement or general policy on charging. The Governing Body's policy may be more or less generous than the Local Authority's, as long as it meets the requirements or the law.

In general, no charge can be made for admitting pupils to maintained schools. Where education is provided wholly or mainly during school hours, it must be free. However, the school may charge for activities outside of school hours where these are not a necessary part of the national curriculum.

Voluntary Contributions

The Headteacher or Governing Body may ask parents or carers for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of:

- any activity which takes place during school hours (e.g. visitors to the school, school trips which are not residential, recorder lessons, musical events, cooking and D&T contributions, snack in Foundation Stage, sporting activities which require transport expenses and swimming lessons)
- school equipment
- school funds generally

The contribution must be genuinely voluntary, though, and the pupils of parents or carers who are unable or unwilling to contribute will not be discriminated against. Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and there is no way to make up the shortfall, then it will be cancelled.

Residential Trips Year 5&6

Schools are permitted to charge for the cost of board and lodging during residential school trips, even if they occur mainly during school time. This cost must not exceed the actual cost of the provision. However, the educational or travel elements are voluntary contributions.

Where the trip takes place wholly, or mainly, during school hours, children whose parents or carers are in receipt of the following support payments will, in addition to having a free school lunch entitlement, also be entitled to the remission of the charge for board and lodging:

- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- Child Tax Credit provided the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income, assessed by the Inland Revenue, does not exceed the annual limit;
- The guaranteed element of a state Pension Credit;
- Universal Credit in Prescribed Areas.

Swimming Lessons

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Years 1 to 3. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We have to charge for

this activity although it is a voluntary payment. Parents or carers are asked to pay for all the lessons even if their child misses the activity.

Before and After School Clubs

There are currently several before and after school clubs for the children of the school. These are subsidised by the school, 50% being funded out of Sports Premium Funding and 50% being paid by parents or carers. The money for these is paid directly to the club providers. The school governors charge £10 per hour for lettings to club providers.

Instrumental Music Lessons

A charge is permitted for instrumental music tuition undertaken in school hours unless the tuition forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination (e.g. GCSE).

Public Examinations

No charges may be made for entering pupils for public examinations that are set out in Regulations. However, an examination entry fee may be charged to parents or carers if:

- the examination is on the set list, but the pupil was not prepared for it at the school;
- the examination is not on the set list, but the school arranges for the pupil to take it;
- a pupil fails without good reason to complete the requirements of any public examination where the Governing Body or LEA originally paid or agreed to pay the entry fee.

Charges may not be made for any cost associated with preparing a pupil for an examination. However, charging is allowed for tuition and other costs if a pupil is prepared outside school hours for an examination that is not set out in Regulations.