

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

# Thornaby CE Primary School

## Charging Policy



**Mission Statement:**

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at Parish and Diocesan level.

The School aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

**With God's help we work together to enrich learning, enhance life, to build a future of hope for everyone.**

# Policy on Charging

## 1 Introduction

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

## 2 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. Parents and carers whose children are eligible for free school meals are supported with at least 50% of this charge. 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 may 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 Residential visits

- 3.1 If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education that is an enhancement to the National Curriculum, we do suggest a charge for the tuition provided by outside tutors, the costs of board and lodging and travel expenses. Parents and carers whose children are eligible for free school meals are supported with at least 50% of 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.

## 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 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. We make a charge for these lessons, but parents and carers whose children are eligible for free school meals are supported with at least 50% of this charge. We give parents and carers information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

## **5 Swimming**

- 5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. 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 Football and other after school activities**

- 6.1 The school offers additional football coaching after school. We make a small charge for these sessions as this involves the hire of an astroturf pitch. Other after school activities that involve hiring of external instructors or incur greater than minimal costings will also involve a small charge. Children in receipt of free school meals can access these clubs without cost.

## **7 Damage to or loss of school property**

- 7.1 Parents may be requested to replace school equipment, books, etc. which have been lost by their child. Wilful breakages and damages to school buildings, furniture or property by a pupil may be charged to parents by the school.

## **8 Monitoring and review**

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

Revised October 2014- To be reviewed October 2016

Revised October 2016- To be reviewed October 2018

Revised October 2018 - to be revised October 2020