



Arkengarthdale C.E. School

Charging Policy

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 music tuition.

Voluntary Contributions

When organising school visits which will enrich our curriculum and educational experiences for our children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the visit. All contributions are voluntary. However, if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school visit or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, the child will still be allowed to participate fully in the trip or activity as long as parental consent has been given.

When appropriate, and funds allow, the school or the Friends of the School may pay a proportion of the costs in order to support an event. Parents will always be informed how each event is funded.

Governors will make budget considerations in the event of a parent requiring help with the cost of a visit.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums
- outdoor adventure activities
- visits to the theatre
- school trips
- musical events
- residential visits

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children for two terms of the academic year. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the curriculum. 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. Our sports grant covers all swimming costs at present.

Residential Visits

The school organises an annual residential visit to East Barnby Outdoor Centre for Year 6 children and also an annual residential visit for Year 4 children to Marrick Priory. These visits take place in school time. The cost of these visits includes board and lodging, transport, materials, entrance to any sites visited and charges for any activities to be experienced.

If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to write in confidence to the Headteacher. Parents will be given the option of a payment plan to spread the costs of the residential visit.

Charging in Kind

The cost of ingredients, materials, equipment etc. needed for practical subjects such as food technology or DT is budgeted for and borne by the school. However, the school may charge for or require the supply of ingredients and materials if the product is to be owned and taken home by the child afterwards. The school may ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards these costs.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. This charge is paid by parents directly to the County Music service which provides peripatetic music teachers to teach individuals or small group lessons on the school site.

Wrap Around Care:

The School now offers WAC from 8.00 am every morning and up to 4.30 pm Monday & Tuesday. We charge £1.00 per child per session which can be paid by cash or using ParentPay. There is a Ukulele Club on a Wednesday 3.15 – 4.00 pm for which there is no charge and a Sports Club on a Thursday 3.15 – 4.15 pm. Again there is no charge to parents and is funded by the school through their Sports Funding grant.

Sample Letter for use when Requesting Voluntary Contributions

PLEASE NOTE - Voluntary Contributions for School Visits

The school may invite parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of school visits. Contributions are completely voluntary. However, when there are not enough voluntary contributions an activity may have to be cancelled.

Title of activity

Name of Child:

I give permission for my child to take part in the activity detailed above.

I am willing/ not willing to make a voluntary contribution of £ towards the costs. (Please delete as appropriate)

Signed:

Equal Opportunities:

It is the responsibility of all teachers to ensure that the guidelines outlined in this policy are the same for all pupils, irrespective of gender, ability, ethnicity, and social circumstances.