



Thringstone Primary School

Believe and Achieve Together

Charging Policy

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 All education during school hours is free. The Education Reform Act of 1988 made it illegal for schools to charge for certain school activities if they take place during the school day.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 When organising school trips or visits that 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 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 organised by the school, which may require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive: - visits to museums, theatres, activity venues, farms; - sporting activities which require transport expenses; .
- outdoor adventure activities;
 - residential trips; 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 do make a charge to cover the cost of the visit. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to write in confidence to the Headteacher.

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. Peripatetic teachers will teach individual or small group lessons and will

make a charge for these lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition each academic year.

5 Swimming

- 5.1 The National Curriculum states that schools must provide swimming instruction in Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2. The school organises swimming lessons for children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask them to pay upfront the cost of the block of lessons. The school covers 50% of the cost of swimming for all children who are in receipt of free school meals at the time.

6 Breakfast Club

- 6.1 The school runs an activity breakfast club each morning from 7.30am. The school charges £5.00 for the session if a child arrives at breakfast club before 8.00am and £3.00 from 8.00am. The charges apply per child.

7 Wilful Damage

- 7.1 Parents may be asked to make a contribution towards replacing damaged or lost school property caused wilfully or negligently by their children.

8 Lettings

- 8.1 The school has a scale of charges, and in order to provide the community with a more financially accessible facility, the Governors have agreed to let out the facilities for the time required rather than the recommended four hour block of time. The governors will review the lettings charges levied by the school on an annual basis.
- 8.2 For private lettings the school adds a charge to cover admin and any overtime costs of the premises staff.