

# Rothersthorpe CE 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 or group 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 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 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 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 organized by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. 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
  - residential visits and 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 do ask for a voluntary contribution for the education or travel expenses. We also make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Parents who receive state benefits are invited to speak to the Head teacher in confidence, so that reduced payments may be agreed.

## **4 Music tuition**

- 4.1** All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2** Northamptonshire Music & Performing Arts Service provide peripatetic music tuition to individual or small groups. The full cost of the Peripatetic teachers will be passed onto parents. Parents in receipt of state benefits are invited to speak to the Head teacher in confidence, so that reduced payments may be agreed. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

## **5 Swimming**

- 5.1** The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2 and receives funding in the school's budget for this purpose. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

## **6 Extra Curricular Clubs**

- 6.1** The school offers a range of after school clubs which are organised taking into account the seasons of the year. For example, gardening club in the spring, football in the autumn and summer months. Some clubs are run by school staff, for which there is no charge and some clubs are run by outside agencies. For example, a qualified Basketball coach, who is not a member of the school staff, runs and organises an after school club for which a charge is levied.
- 6.2** Food Technology Club is offered to children in KS2 as an after school club. There is a minimal charge for this activity to cover the cost of the ingredients used.

## **7 Other Activities**

- 7.1** The school may ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of external bodies coming into school to work with the children. Examples of this could be a puppet show for the children's entertainment, or an artist in residence. If insufficient contributions are received, the activity may need to be cancelled.
- 7.2** Parents may be asked for a contribution towards the cost of materials, in the case of Design & Technology and Art & Design when they wish for their child to bring home an item made in school. These charges will be kept to a minimum and will only be to cover the cost of materials/ ingredients used.

## **8 Loss / Damages**

- 8.1** Parents are required to reimburse the school for any willful damage to school property, or the misuse or loss of books and equipment by their child. The charge may be the cost of a replacement or repair, whichever the Head teacher may decide. In the case of lost library books, parents will be asked to reimburse the school for the cost of replacing such a book, after all efforts to find the book have been exhausted.

**Signed:**            **Nicola Fountain – Head teacher**  
                         **Fiona Newitt – Chair of Governors**

**Date:**            **January 2015**