



Our vision:

**A caring Christian community where children thrive:
enthusiasm and excellence lead to high aspirations and
outstanding achievements**

Charging Policy 2021

Introduction

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.

Voluntary contributions for activities as part of the Curriculum

When organising school trips, visits or workshop activities that enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the activity. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel the activity. If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unable or unwilling to make a voluntary contribution, the child is still allowed to participate fully in the trip or activity as long as parental consent has been given. If appropriate and funds allow, the school may pay a proportion of the costs in order to support a visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. Friends of Croft School (FOCS) may provide financial support upon request, with agreement of their committee.

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 to the relevant music centre which provides peripatetic music teachers to teach individuals or small group lessons on the school site unless an agreement is agreed with the school. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year or term.



Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for KS2 children. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We ask for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of transport to and from the pool, provision of a lifeguard/specialist teacher and hire of the pool itself. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place and we ask for their written permission for their child to take part in these.

Optional Extra Activities

(Activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours and are not required in order to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum or Religious Education)

It is the governors' policy to charge for such activities organised by the school. The basis for calculating the charge will be proportionate for each participating pupil for travel, board & lodging, materials, books, equipment, entrance fees and insurance. The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents.

This list is not exhaustive:

- sporting activities which require transport expenses or coaching;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- school trips abroad;
- musical events.

Activities not run by the School or LA

When an organisation acting independently of the school or LA arranges an activity to take place during school hours and parents want their children to join the activity, such organisations may charge parents.

Residential Visits

The cost of residential visits includes board and lodging, transport, materials, entrance to any sites visited and charges for any activities to be experienced. The governors' policy is for the school to cover the cost of any additional teacher time necessary to lead the trip or subsequent follow up work. Where available, sponsorship will be provided for children of families on forms of



income support. This is stated clearly on letters and is dealt with discretely and in confidence by 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 design technology is budgeted for and borne by the school. However, the school requests an annual voluntary contribution from parents towards the supply of ingredients and materials to cover products to be owned and taken home by the child afterwards e.g. food products, models containing electrical equipment or batteries.

Breakages & Fines

The Governors reserve the right to ask parents to pay for the cost of replacing any item such as:

- broken windows
- defaced, damaged or lost text books
- replacement reading or homework diaries
- any item damaged as a result of unsatisfactory pupil behaviour.

Special Needs

The governing body confirms that no pupil with special needs or disabilities will be treated any differently than any other pupil. The school will take all reasonable steps to avoid putting children with special needs at a substantial disadvantage.

Review

There will be an annual review of this policy by the full governing body.

Reviewed by the Finance Committee on 3/11/21

To be reviewed: September 2022

Signed: RLRoberts 1st September 2021