



# **CHARGING POLICY**

**Date for adoption: November 2015**

## **Introduction**

The general principles for charging as directed by the Education Reform Act 1988 are:

- any activity which takes place mainly during the school hours or is an essential part of the curriculum should be provided free of charge.
- any educational activity which is deemed sufficiently important to take up school time should be free to all pupils regardless of their parents' ability to pay.
- Schools can invite voluntary contributions towards the cost of activities.

**There are no compulsory charges for the usual curriculum activities at school but we do ask for voluntary financial contributions for some activities such as theatre visits to the school, school trips and swimming. A child will never be excluded from an activity if a donation has not been made but, obviously, insufficient contributions could mean we have to cancel an activity.**

### **Residential Visits:**

Children have the opportunity to make residential visits during their time at our school. Where this is the case, board and lodging, admission, fares, etc. must be paid for from voluntary contributions sent in by parents. The school never budgets or charges to make a profit.

Parents who are in receipt of certain benefits can be granted some or all remission of charge in respect of a residential trip.

### **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. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. Pupils eligible for pupil premium can have music lessons funded as learning an instrument is believed to increase concentration, self-esteem, logic, creativity, mathematical understanding and confidence. We give families information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year. Families are requested to pay for lessons prior to them starting.

### **Swimming:**

The school pays for the hire of the swimming pool from West Wiltshire District Council and for the swimming instruction. However, without the excellent support that parents give by way of suggested voluntary contributions for coach travel this ambitious programme could not take place.

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. However, costs of additional life-guards and travel are paid by families who make a weekly voluntary contribution. We inform families when these lessons are to take place, and we ask families for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

### **Sports clubs**

The school offers additional Football (flicks and tricks), Judo and Dance (kids love fit) coaching after school or at lunchtime. Qualified coaches, who are not a member of the school staff, run and organise these sessions and there is a charge for these sessions. We offer subsidies for pupils eligible for pupil premium for these activities.

## **Community use of School Facilities**

Charges for use of any of the school facilities allocated for Community use, will be set with due regard to charges for similar facilities within the local area. We actively seek to NOT compete with the village hall or pre-school with regard to room hire and childcare.

### **Hall letting Charges**

Hall letting	£45 Per Session + deposit £40
Regular hall letting	£35 Per session + deposit £40(1 only)
Day hall letting	£85 All day + deposit £40
Beneficial to AWGS	£20 + deposit £20 (extra costs may be added if out of school times)

*(Beneficial to AWGS is deemed by the Governing Body and Head as educational or social and is at the their discretion)*

#### **All Charges are per session:**

**Morning 08.00 – 13.00**

**Afternoon 13.00 -18.00**

**Evening 18.00 – 23.00**

#### **Hire of the hall for Children's parties is not allowed.**

All charges include opening and closing of school.

All payments to be made in advance of hire

All deposits will be returned if hall after inspection is clean/tidy and no damage has occurred.

#### **Special Weeks (Art, DT, Book week, etc):**

Parents may be asked to contribute towards materials used or for special visitors into school. These are voluntary contributions.

#### **Success Criteria.**

We know that this policy is effective and embedded in our practice when:

- All families know that there is no obligation to contribute when voluntary contributions are sought and that all pupils will be treated alike, whether or not their families have made any contribution in response to the request.
- All children can participate in all learning opportunities regardless of their family's ability to pay for them.
- Pupil Premium monies are used to provide who need financial assistance.
- All families know that all applications for financial support will be treated confidentially and fairly.

Signed: Chair of Governors