

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.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. 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, organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:
- visits to museums;
 - visits by a theatre company;
 - visits to enhance creative curriculum topics.

3 Music tuition

- 3.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 3.2 There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. The Bedford Co-operative (Music Service) make a charge for these lessons, but parents in receipt of state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

4 Swimming

CAMESTONE SCHOOL

- 4.1** The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Year 4. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We therefore make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part. Parents are asked to contribute towards the transport costs.

5 Monitoring and review

- 5.1** This policy is monitored by the governing body, and will be reviewed in two years, or earlier if necessary.

January 2018