



## **SCHOOL POLICY ON CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

Agreed and adopted by Cheadle Primary School Governing Body

Date: February 2017

Review: November 2019

1. It is the Governors' aim to maintain the right of every child to free school education, and that all activities which take place wholly or partially within school hours should be available to all pupils regardless of whether their parents are willing, or able, to help meet the cost.
2. It should be clearly understood, that no child whose parents either choose not to, or are unable to contribute towards school activities, will be discriminated against, but will always be included in any activities taking place during school hours.
3. The School's Charging Policy takes account of the following areas where costs may arise.
  - a) For internal school activities such as painting, baking, sewing, modelling etc, where part of the developmental process is to take home the finished product to show parents or to keep as a souvenir.

At our school, items in this category have always been paid for out of our school funds, and provided we can maintain the current level of fundraising we will endeavour to still allow children to bring finished items home, free of charge. The governors reserve the right to charge for these items in the future, if it becomes necessary.

- b) For educational visits taking place wholly or partially during school hours.

The Governors and staff believe that visits of an educational nature, can, and do add to children's development by seeing things at first hand, and that most parents would support them in this view. However, there is a considerable cost involved in paying for both entry fees and coaches, which the school's funding from the LA cannot possibly cover.

Therefore it is the policy of the school, that if a visit is felt to be worthwhile for the children's educational development, parents will be asked to make voluntary contributions towards the costs involved, and that only if sufficient funds are raised in this way to cover the cost, will the visit take place.

If however, insufficient funds are forthcoming, visits may have to be cancelled, and any contributions returned.

Parents should note that no child will be excluded because their parent or carer has not contributed. In certain circumstances, where parents express a concern about making a payment, we may agree to make alternative arrangements or waive or reduce that payment.

- C) For educational visits taking place outside school hours.

Visits in this category may be evening or after school visits. These are called optional extras.

The school's policy here is that because the visit is outside school hours, it is solely up to the parents whether or not they wish their child to be included in the activity, then places will be allocated on a first come basis, up to the number of places available, provided that the cost of their child's place has been met.

The school is under no obligation to take any child that has not paid.

The cost for each place will only be the actual unit cost (+ insurance) with no extras included.

If insufficient places are taken up, then the school may have to cancel the visit and return the amount already paid.

d) For breakages, damage, loss caused non-accidentally to the school by identifiable pupils.

Governors understand that sometimes items of furniture or equipment or parts of the building can be broken either through wear and tear or by accident.

However, there are times when it is quite clear that damage has been caused deliberately, or reasonable care has not been shown.

The school policy therefore is that where it can be clearly shown that the breakage or damage has been caused deliberately, by an identifiable pupil, then the parents of that child will be asked to pay in full for the repair or replacement of the item.

Books or items of clothes/equipment belonging to the school which are taken home and lost will be included in this category.