

Tydd St. Mary & Weston Hills Church Schools Federation



Together with God on our voyage
of discovery and opportunity



Learning for life in a
community that cares

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.
- 1.2 The charges we set for activities are in accordance with the Local Authority's guidance on charging for activities in schools.

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 need to 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 are examples 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;
 - musical events.

3 Residential visits

- 3.1 If the school organises a voluntary residential visit which enriches the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip, namely travel expenses and board and lodging. All contributions are voluntary; however, if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may need to cancel the 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.

4 Music tuition

- 4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2 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. Charges for these sessions are made directly to parents by the provider, however, should school finances allow, the school will cover or subsidise these sessions.

5 Swimming

- 5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children as part of the National Curriculum. These take place in school time. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place. We ask for voluntary contributions towards the cost of transport to this activity.

6 Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs

- 6.1 During the academic year school may offer sports coaching at lunchtime or after school. A qualified coach, who is not a member of the school staff, would run and organize these sessions. Charges for these sessions would be made directly by parents by the provider, however, if school finances allow, the school would cover/subsidise these sessions.

7 Hot School Meals

- 7.1 All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals through government funding. For children in Year 3 to Year 6, at Weston Hills, parents order and pay for school meals directly from the local provider. Orders are made online at www.schoolmealsonline.co.uk. At Tydd St. Mary, orders are made via ParentPay.

7.2 Parents carers in receipt of certain benefits are eligible to apply for free school meals.

8 Lettings

8.1 Charges for the use of school premises for private hire are made in accordance with LA guidance for Lettings Fees. The school has this guidance which is available on request.

9 Breakfast Club

9.1 A breakfast club is run each school day from 8 a.m. A charge is made for this and it can be paid on a daily or weekly basis. We offer reductions for siblings. In addition, Pupil Premium supports our breakfast club by facilitating subsidised places.

Review

This policy was approved by the governing body at their meeting in May 2024.

It will be subject to annual review initially by the Headteacher, but will be updated on receipt of any changes in law as soon as is possible.