

St Andrew's CE Primary School



Charging Policy

Review Summer 2022
Next review: Summer 2023

St Andrew's CE Primary School

CHARGING POLICY

Every Child A Champion in Their Own Right. Matthew 5.16 - "Let Your Light Shine."

Responsibility: Governing Body/G Huckstep

The effect of the 1998 Education Act has been to clarify that for educational activities undertaken by the school, in normal school hours, there is no compulsion on parents to have to pay for these activities except for certain specified items such as residential trips.

1. EDUCATIONAL VISITS

However all educational visits are a vital part of a pupil's education and the costs of travel, entrance fees etc. cannot solely be met by school funds. Also it may be seen as unfair that some parents contribute towards the cost and others do not.

The situation should be made clear to any parents wishing their child to participate that the trip may have to be cancelled unless sufficient funds are raised. This could be detrimental to the pupils' development.

Parents will be reminded of the voluntary nature contributions on an annual basis in our Information to Parents Booklet.

It is policy at St. Andrew's for educational visits to be:

- a) relevant for the pupils;
- b) a definite aid in supplementing work in the classroom;
- c) of quality first-hand experience;
- d) a venture to further those links between home/school in regards to parental help, awareness raising of curriculum matters;
- e) of extra stimuli for present/future work;
- f) value for money.

It is policy at St. Andrew's for parents to be fully informed of the details and reasons for such an educational visit and benefit to the pupils well in advance.

To include:

- Place
- Date
- Time
- Reason for visit
- Activities
- Cost
- Invitation to parents to participate

Reply Slip example for day trips:

I give permission for my child to participate in the visit to
..... on

I enclose my contribution/donation of £..... towards the funding of this trip.

I can/cannot help supervise. (Please delete as appropriate).

Signed

Child's Name Class

2. RESIDENTIAL TRIPS:

It is policy for all parents to be asked to contribute towards the cost of a School Residential Trip, but no child will be prevented from attending such a trip on financial grounds.

3. SCHOOL DINNERS:

It is policy for parents to pay money for School Lunches only on Mondays for the rest of the week. Money will not be accepted on any other day of the week, unless it is the first day of a term. Cheques should be made payable to Hull City Council. Parents will be reminded regularly about eligibility criteria for Free School Meals and will be encouraged to apply if they qualify.

4. PURCHASE OF SCHOOL UNIFORM/BAGS:

Items of school uniform and school PE bags and book bags can be purchased from the School Office - prices will be available on demand.

5. OTHER ACTIVITIES:

It is policy to organise a variety of activities e.g. Swimming, Cooking, Technology, Road Safety, Cycling etc. as part of the School Curriculum. Where necessary, parents may be asked to contribute towards any extra costs such as certificates, models to take home, ingredients. However, the voluntary nature of such contributions will be outlined annually.

In the Foundation Stage parents donate a weekly sum of 50p towards the 'running' costs for Cooking, Technology and Art Materials etc. This also must be a voluntary contribution.

Where/when necessary, School Funds will help contribute towards materials needed for Cooking, Technology and Music Specialists etc.

Raising money for charities: On some occasions children will be 'charged' for activities, or for coming to school in non-uniform clothes and this money will be collected for charity - parents will be informed by newsletter of these occasions.

6. STAFF / OTHER ADULTS:

Although the majority of staff use their own mobile phones to make personal calls, they may use the school phone - no charge will be made.

Staff may photocopy materials for their own use - no charge will be made.

Please Note:

No child will be discriminated against on grounds of race, creed, gender or ability.

A policy of total inclusion operates at St Andrew's.

Appropriate risk assessment will be carried out accordingly before each trip.

It is policy at St Andrew's for cases of financial hardship to be recognised and dealt with sympathetically and discreetly.

In summary, parental awareness of the benefit and necessity of educational visits and special classroom activities should help alleviate any reluctance about their children participating.

The onus is on the school to choose carefully, to be meticulous in regards to planning and organisation and to show, through open communication and parental involvement, how standards of work and a child's understanding of specific concepts, knowledge and attitudes can develop.

It is also policy for parents to be invited to help on school trips, subject to appropriate police checks and need. The final decision for any parent participation on trips must be the responsibility of the school.

This policy will be reviewed annually in the Summer Term.