



Bluecoat C of E Primary School, Great Torrington



Charging Policy



TRAVELWISE
Schools Award SILVER



Healthy School



NPQH Leadership
Development School
National College
for Leadership of Schools
and Children's Services

The nurture
group network
helping children to succeed



GREAT TORRINGTON BLUECOAT C OF E INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL

CHARGING POLICY

This policy was adopted by the Governing Body on 10th July 2014

The policy will be reviewed on _____

Chair of Governors Gillian Taylor Date 10th July 2014

Headteacher Angela Fleming Date 10th July 2014

The Education Reform Act lays down that no charge may be made for “education” that takes place wholly within school hours; “education” to include materials, equipment and transport for an activity. However school may invite voluntary contributions for these activities, the procedure for which is as follows:

1. School Visits

- a. An initial letter, informing parents about the trip/theatre visit and its approximate cost, will be sent to ascertain the level of support the activity will receive.
- b. If there is an indication of sufficient support from this initial enquiry, more precise figures will be calculated and a further letter sent to parents, indicating a level of voluntary contribution which will be needed to enable the activity to go ahead. The letter will explain that, whilst no pupil will be treated differently if their parents do not make a contribution, the activity will not be able to take place unless sufficient financial support from parents is forthcoming.
- c. The Governors place value and importance on good supervision and extra adults will be invited to complement the teaching and non teaching staff in order to keep the adult pupil ratio correct. These adult supervisors will not be expected to pay.

2. Additional Curriculum Activities

- a. An initial letter, informing parents about the additional activity and its approximate cost, will be sent to ascertain the level of support the activity will receive.
- b. If there is an indication of sufficient support from this initial enquiry, more precise figures will be calculated and a further letter sent to parents, indicating a level of voluntary contribution which will be needed to enable the activity to go ahead. The letter will explain that, whilst no pupil will be treated differently if their parents do not make a contribution, the activity will not be able to take place unless sufficient financial support from parents is forthcoming.
- c. Additional activities will be those that are over above normal curriculum provision and are only able to take place with the voluntary support of parents/carers.

3. School Equipment

- a Parents may be invited to purchase certain items of equipment (eg home diaries, pens) which are otherwise provided on loan by the school.
- b. A charge will be made, in cash or in kind, for materials used in school where parents indicate that they wish to own the finished article.
- c. Parents may be asked to meet the cost of lost or damaged school property, books or equipment where this is the result of a pupil's behaviour.

4. Optional activities outside of the school day

We may charge for optional, extra activities provided outside the school day, for example, sporting activities. Such activities are not part of the National Curriculum or religious education. Where we wish to charge we will tell parents in advance. Where specific funding has been received to support particular activities we will subsidise the charge to the extent permitted by the funding.

5. Remission of Charges

The Governors have agreed. in line with the Devon Policy, that in addition to having a free school meal entitlement, children whose parents receive the following support payments are entitled to remission of charges for school trips. The relevant support payments are:

- ❖ Income Support
- ❖ Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- ❖ Child Tax Credit, where the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and annual income does not exceed £13230
- ❖ Support under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The FoTB have agreed that, dependant on their funds, they will subsidise the shortfall in any trip, activity or theatre visit.