

NETTLEBED COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Charging Policy 2017

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 with the exception of individual or group music tuition.

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 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. The cost of trips is sometimes subsidised using funds allotted to us by local educational trusts, by FONS (our PTA) or from the school.
- 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. We may ask them to make application for funds to a local charitable trust or we may make an application on their behalf. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.
- 2.3** If parents are in receipt of certain state benefits, and so entitled to free school meals, they are exempt from payment for school visits. Parents may still wish to make a voluntary contribution and this is welcomed by the school.
- 2.3** The following is a list of additional activities organized by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:
- visits to museums;
 - outdoor adventure activities;
 - visits to the theatre;
 - school trips abroad;
 - musical events.
 - Henley Youth Festival events.

3 Residential visits

- 3.1** If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging, tuition, transport and insurance. Payments are spread out over several months to help parents budget for them. Parents who receive certain state benefits are exempt from payment. Parents who experience difficulty making the payments are asked to write or speak to the headteacher who advises on trust funds that can be sought for assistance with payment. School funds may also be used to support families.

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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. Peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of certain state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

- 5.1** The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. At this time, we make no charge for this activity.

6 Extra-Curricular Clubs

- 6.1** The school offers a wide range of additional activities after school (and a breakfast club before school). Qualified staff who are not members of the school staff, run and organise most of these sessions. Others are run by members of the school staff. We charge a nominal amount for clubs. Our aim is to make them available to every child who wishes to take part, so free school meal and/or pupil premium children are offered a number of free clubs at the discretion of the Headteacher.

7 Mini-buses

- 7.1** We do not normally charge children if they are transported in a minibus to an event where they are representing the school. However, where we use minibuses for an educational visit, we request a financial contribution to cover the cost of fuel and insurance.