



Beecroft Garden
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BEECROFT GARDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL CHARGING POLICY

Reviewed policy agreed by: March 2016
Reviewed policy shared with staff on:
Policy to be reviewed again: March 2018

BEECROFT GARDEN CHARGING POLICY

INTRODUCTION

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.

Voluntary contributions for activities as part of the curriculum

When organising school trips, visits or workshop activities which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the activity. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel the activity.

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, the child is still allowed to participate fully in the trip or activity as long as parental consent has been given.

If appropriate and funds allow, the school or Friends of Beecroft may pay a proportion of the costs in order to support a visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded.

The following is a list of additional activities organised 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;
- School trips;
- Musical events.

Residential Visits

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 not make any charge for the activity. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board, lodging and travel expenses.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. This charge is paid to the school and then we pass on to Lewisham Music which provides peripatetic music teachers to teach individuals or small group lessons on the school site.

From April 2016 the school is expanding its music provision to provide additional music tuition directly and this will also be chargeable.

We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for one year group of children. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We ask for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of transport to and from the pool, provision of a lifeguard/specialist teacher and hire of the pool itself. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place and we ask for their written permission for their child to take part in these.

Charging in kind

The cost of ingredients, materials, equipment etc. needed for practical subjects such as food technology or DT is budgeted for and borne by the school. However, the school may charge for or require the supply of ingredients and materials if the product is to be owned and taken home by the child afterwards, e.g. food products, models containing electrical equipment or batteries. The school will inform parents prior to activities, giving them the choice to pay for materials or purchase their own materials for the activity.

Remissions

Where the pupils are in receipt of the Pupil Premium or parents are on income support or receiving family income credit, the Governing Body may offer to remit part or the full the cost of full board and lodging for any residential activity which is deemed to take place in school hours

or where it forms part of the for the National Curriculum in cases of demonstrable hardship.

The Governing Body may sometimes use their discretion to remit in full or in part the cost of other activities for particular groups of parents, for example, in the case of family hardship.

When arranging a chargeable activity parents, parents who are finding it difficult to make a contribution will be invited in confidence for the remission of charges in full or in part. The Head teacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors will make authorisation for such remission

Review

This policy will be reviewed in March 2018.

March 2016