



Thornley Primary School Charging Policy

Introduction

All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no additional charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

From time to time, activities such as educational visits, visitors and clubs take place which incur charges. Wherever possible, school will try to subsidise the cost of these activities to reduce prices.

Under the 1988 Education Reform Act schools are prohibited from charging for activities during school hours which are an essential part of the curriculum. However, we may ask for voluntary contributions to help with the cost of certain activities e.g educational visits during school hours. Parents may be charged for events their children take part in outside the school day e.g disco, weekend residential visits.

Voluntary contributions

At Thornley Primary School we organise school trips, visitors or visits throughout the school year, to enrich the curriculum we offer and to enhance the educational experience of our learners. The school invites parents to contribute towards the cost of some of these events. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, however, we may need to cancel trips, visits or visitors. Where a trip goes ahead or visitors to the school deliver activities to enhance our curriculum, learners whose parents have not paid any contribution will share the experience, we do not treat these learners differently from any others.

The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which may require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:

- Educational visits – transport and entrance costs may be incurred
- Sporting activities offered by external providers
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to or by a theatre company
- After-school activities offered by external providers

We have a range of activities that are offered free of charge.

Educational Visits

The school organises a range of educational visits. We ask for a small voluntary contribution towards the visits, which is never more than £5. Educational visits are subsidised by Pupil Premium Funding and School Budget. All pupils access termly educational visits.

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time we ask parents to cover the cost of board, lodging and travel. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled.

School will do whatever it can to assist parents with the cost of a residential visit:

- If parents cannot afford the full cost of the visit this may be subsidised e.g if the child is in receipt of free school meals.

- If we are able to raise funds or acquire additional funding to subsidise the costs of these visits then savings will be passed on to parents/carers.

Music Tuition

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

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

After School Clubs

The school organises a range of after school clubs which are sometimes at no cost to our pupils. Some clubs require a small cost for resources – this is always communicated with parents. All After School Clubs are subsidised.

Teatime Wrap Around care does incur a cost to cover staffing, food and activities.

Transport

For many activities transport is required. At Thornhill we do not charge for all transport costs other than contribution towards school visits. A portion of our Sport Premium is used to fund the cost of transport to sporting events.

Wrap Around Care

The school offers Wrap around care from 8am – 5.00pm. Sessions must be paid for in advance and can be booked on ParentPay or by contacting the office.

Prices are as follows;

Breakfast Club 8am – 8.45am (breakfast) - £2.00 a session

Teatime Club 3.30pm – 5:00pm (includes snack) £2.00 a session

School Meals

All children from Year Reception to Year 2 receive Universal free school meals. School meals from Year 3 –Year 6 cost £2.50.

Free school meals are available for children whose parents receive certain benefits: (see link – apply for free school meals Durham County Council)

All children in Nursery pay for school meals which cost £2.50.

Meals must be paid on time and balances cannot be accrued over time.

Milk

All children receive daily free milk until 5 years old. Once a child turns 5, milk is paid for via www.coolmilk.com.

Snack

All pupils from Nursery to Year 6 receive a free bagel.

Payments

Payments can be made via ParentPay.

Monitoring This policy is monitored and will be reviewed annually.

A Caine - Headteacher