

Furness Vale Primary School

Charging Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1** All education provided within 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.

The amount of money provided by the LA is rarely sufficient to cover all our education provisions. Consequently, we have had to develop a system of charges to parents, which allows us to continue to provide a variety of activities for your children. We make every effort to ensure good value for money at all times. If, however, parents do not share the cost of these activities many of them may not go ahead.

2 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. Contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient 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.
- 2.2** Before planning a school visit, the school might approach the PTFA to ask for a contribution towards the costs. The PTFA considers the request and decides whether to fund the whole, part or none of the costs. School will let parents know if the PTFA have made a contribution towards the cost.
- 2.3** If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unable to make a contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.
- 2.4** For some in-school activities, which are part of the children's programme of study within the national curriculum e.g. visiting artists and musicians, we may ask for a contribution to the cost of these activities so that we can continue to give the children a wide programme of different and exciting experiences. This includes the cost of ingredients for technology subjects e.g. pottery and cooking where the finished product comes home to you.

Further activities include: (This list is not exhaustive)

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- school trips abroad;
- musical events;
- field trips.

If you have any problems regarding payment for school journeys or activities, please contact the school office.

3 Music tuition

- 3.1** All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 3.2** There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. They make a charge for these lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

4 After School Clubs

- 4.1** Clubs that are run by teachers do not usually have an additional cost, it might request a contribution towards materials.
- 4.2** Clubs run by external agencies do have cost implications. Contributions are sought towards these so that we can offer as wide a range of sporting and other activities as possible.

5 Photocopying/Laminating/Ring Binding

- 5.1** Staff and others may use the school photocopier for personal use at a charge of:
- 5p per A4 copy (single sided)
 - 10p per A3 copy (single sided)
 - 20p per A4 copy (single sided - colour)
 - 40p per A3 copy (single sided - colour)
- 5.2** Staff and others may use the laminator for personal use at a charge of:
- 20p per A4 laminated sheet
 - 35p per A3 laminated sheet
- 5.3** Staff and others may use the ring binder for personal use at a charge of:
- 10p per binder

6 Private Telephone Calls

- 6.1** Staff and others using the school telephone may do so at the normal BT costs.

7 Deliberate Damage

- 7.1** In the extremely unlikely event of deliberate damage to school property, the school reserve the right for you to be asked to pay for the repair or to replace the broken items

8 Lettings

- 8.1** Commercial lettings will be charged in line with Local Authority guidelines. Clubs which operate on the basis of having value to the school will be charged a reduced fee. This calculation will be based on a proportion of the energy costs and caretaking costs depending on individual usage of the premises. Charges and arrangements are set out in the Lettings Policy.

9 Freedom of Information Act

9.1 Information published on our website is free, although you may incur costs from your Internet service provider. If you don't have Internet access, you can access our website using a local library or an Internet café.

Single copies of information covered by this publication are provided free. However, if your request means that we have to do a lot of photocopying or printing, or pay a large postage charge, or is for a priced item such as some printed publications or videos we will let you know the cost before fulfilling your request. Charges and arrangements are set out in the Freedom of Information Policy.