

Date approved :

Date to be reviewed:

Governor Name: _____ Signature: _____

King's Stanley Church of England Primary School

Policy on Charging

1 Introduction

The school wishes to provide for all pupils the best possible educational opportunities available within the funds allocated by the Local Authority. The law states very clearly that education during the school hours is to be free of any compulsory charge to parents. The school warmly endorses that principle and is committed to upholding the legal requirements.

It is recognised, however, that many educationally valuable activities have been and will continue to be dependent on financial contributions made in whole or in part from parents. Without that financial support the school would find it quite impossible to maintain the quality and breadth of the educational experiences provided for pupils. The school's concern is to keep financial contributions to a reasonable minimum and to ensure, as far as possible, that all children are able to take part, irrespective of their circumstances.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents and carers to contribute to the cost. 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 or carers have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.
- 2.2 If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event to support their specific learning linked to the national Curriculum, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary 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 and carers have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request.
- 2.3 During the school year the children are involved in many art and technology tasks such as cooking, sewing and model making using a great range of ingredients and materials and the children are encouraged to keep these items and take them home. The school budget provides sufficient funds for very simple and basic materials however parents may be invited to provide materials or a financial contribution.

3 Residential visits

- 3.1 If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time we do suggest a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and transport..

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 small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. We make a charge for these lessons, but

parents and carers in receipt of state benefits can apply for a bursary to help with these charges. We give parents and carers 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. We do ask for a voluntary contribution from parents and carers to cover the cost. We inform parents and carers when these lessons are to take place, and we seek the written permission of parents or carers for their children to take part.

6 Extra-curricular

- 6.1 The school may offer additional coaching outside school hours. A qualified coach, who is not a member of the school staff, may run & organise these sessions. Charges will apply.

7 School Transport

- 7.1 We normally charge if children are transported in a coach or minibus to an extra-curricular activity. However, we use these charges only to cover the expenses of the trip, and not to make a profit.

8 Monitoring and review

- 8.1 This policy is monitored by the governing body, and will be reviewed every two years or earlier if necessary.

Signed:

Date:

Review Date: