

# Charging Policy

Date: Autumn 2018

Lead: Headteacher

Committee: General Purposes Committee

Review: Autumn 2019

*'Bless us to encourage, love and learn'*

This statement is part of the overall policy of St Jude & St Paul's Primary School, recognising the principle of free school education as outlined in the Education Reform Acts and clarified in DfE circulars.

The Governing body are authorised by the LA to seek voluntary contributions from parents/carers to fund activities within school hours when costs cannot be met from the school's delegated budget.

If parents/carers do not make a voluntary contribution, their child will not be treated any different to any other children in the school.

We need to ask for voluntary contributions as the school budget does not stretch to fund the full cost of trips; especially where coaches are required.

Activities that are considered as additional to the school's normal curriculum can often only proceed if voluntary contributions cover the costs involved. These include visits and trips that occur inside school sessions that enhance and enrich the normal curriculum. The voluntary contributions help to meet the over-all cost of the trip, with the school budget often paying the short fall of the trip. Any contributions made are gratefully received as the school's budget is very limited.

## **Examples of activities and items that may be charged for include:**

- extended school costs, breakfast and after school clubs.
- sports & music tuition and instrument costs which are in addition to the school's normal curriculum.
- visits and trips where board and lodgings are required, are in addition to the school's normal curriculum and occurring outside school sessions for the majority of the time.
- breakages or damage caused purposely by pupils.
- loss or damage to text books, library books, reading books beyond repair.
- signing passports (a charge of £5 will apply)

At St Jude and St Paul's we have a school uniform for all pupils from Reception to Year 6. These may be purchased from the school or other suppliers. All children are expected to wear school uniform.

## **School Meals**

Parents who are entitled to apply for free school meals will not be required to either pay for school meals or provide a packed lunch for their child. Currently LB Islington policy entitles all primary school pupils in the Borough to receive a meal free of charge. Should this policy change parents who can't apply for a free school meal will be invited to pay for a meal or provide a packed lunch for their child.

Interpretation of this policy is devolved to the Headteacher in consultation with the Governors.