ALLENDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHARGING POLICY

1. Introduction

1.1 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 provided externally and transport to swimming.

2. Voluntary contributions

2.1 When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school may invite parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. 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 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, 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 have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

2.3 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, galleries etc;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre or theatre companies in school;
- musical events.

3. Residential visits

3.1 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 education. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board, lodging and travel expenses. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to write in confidence to the Headteacher.

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 group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons; there is a charge for these lessons. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty or are entitled to Free School Meals, they are invited to write in confidence

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

5. Fruit

5.1 KS1 children are entitled to fruit free of charge. We have decided to supply fruit to all children in school free of charge.

6. Dinners

6.1 Children who are not entitled to Free School Meals, and who wish to receive a school dinner are liable to a charge of £2.35 per day, payable by direct debit via the online ordering portal or by cash or cheque on receipt of a school invoice.

7. Milk

7.1 Under 5s are entitled to Free School Milk. A termly charge payable in advance, is made for all other children, except those entitled to Free School Meals, who wish to receive milk.

8. Swimming

8.1 The school organises swimming lessons for various groups of children. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We ask for a voluntary contribution of £3.50 each week for this activity, dependent on the size of the group. The voluntary contribution covers part of the cost of transport and swimming tuition.

9. Lettings

9.1 The school will make its facilities available to outside users at a charge of at least the cost of providing the facilities. The scale of charges will be determined normally by the Finance Committee, as and when required.

10. Damage to property and breakages

10.1 Where school property has been wilfully or recklessly damaged by a pupil or parent the school may charge those responsible for some or all of the cost of repair or replacement.

10.2 Where property belonging to a third party has been damaged by a pupil, and the school has been charged, the school may charge some or all of the cost to those responsible.

10.3 Whether or not these charges will be made will be decided by the headteacher and dependent on the situation.

This policy will be reviewed in line with the school's policy review cycle.