

SHIREMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHARGING POLICY



Purpose of Policy

This policy complies with the requirements of the Education Act 1996. Where 'parent' is referred to, this will include adults with responsibility for the child.

We believe that all our pupils should have, where possible, an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities and visits (curricular and extra-curricular) independent of their parents' financial means. This charging and remissions policy describes how we will do our best to ensure a good range of visits and activities is offered, and, at the same time, try to minimise the financial barriers which may prevent some pupils taking full advantage of the opportunities. However some activities have an associated cost and cannot be provided unless voluntary contributions are received or parents are charged for the cost.

The Education provided by any maintained school must be free and this includes materials, equipment and any transport that is needed to take pupils to the activity such as to the local swimming pool for swimming lessons. Under the charging provisions of the education Act 1996, governing bodies of maintained schools may choose to charge for certain defined activities, but can only do this if they have first drawn up a statement of their charging and remissions policy.

Shiremoor Primary School endeavours to offer a broad, balanced curriculum to all pupils. In order to deliver the curriculum and extend opportunities for the pupils extra curricular activities are offered.

The school provides funding for all external visits from school budget allocation. Parents are invited to make a voluntary contribution to school outings.

The school offers most extra curricular activities free of charge but in some instances e.g. Judo, pupils make payment to take part in the programme.

Wherever possible school pays for or subsidies extra curricular activities e.g. transport to football matches.

Residential trips for e.g. to High Borrans are paid for by parents. To support families we offer a weekly savings scheme.

The Governing Body recognises its responsibility to ensure that the offer of activities and educational visits does not place an unnecessary burden on family finances. To this end we will try to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Where possible we will publish a list of visits (and their approximate cost) at the beginning of the school year so that parents can plan ahead.
- We have established a system for parents to pay in instalments.
- When an opportunity for a trip arises at short notice it will be possible to arrange to pay by instalments beyond the date of the trip.

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- We acknowledge that offering opportunities on a 'first pay, first served' basis discriminates against pupils from families on lower incomes and we will avoid that method of selection.

Extended Hours Provision

Shiremoor Primary School offers the following extended hours provision for parents:

Breakfast Club the current fees are:

£3.00 per session per child

It has always been the schools intention to offer the best opportunities to all pupils and endeavour to support a wide range of learning opportunities through our budget allocation.