



Charging

POLICY

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS 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.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 The specific requirements of the Education Act 1996 state that all such contributions are for the benefit of the school through a range of school activities:

- there is no obligation to make any contribution
- pupils at the school will not be treated differently according to whether or not their parents have made any contribution in response to the request or invitation.

- 2.2 There is a distinction between the term 'charges' which are obligatory costs and voluntary contributions.

- 2.3 When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum, Jewish ethos and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. For trips, 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.

- 2.4 Subsidies from various sources e.g. Simon Marks Jewish Primary School Trust and Friends of Simon Marks Jewish Primary School, and voluntary organisations will be considered to cover such deficits.

- 2.5 If a parent wishes their children to take part in a school 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 by using of the pupil premium in order to support the visit e.g. coach costs to keep the cost of the visit low. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

- 2.6 The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:
- Visits to the museums;
 - Sporting activities;
 - Outdoor adventure activities;

- Visits to or by a theatre company;
- School trips;
- Musical events;
- Transport;
- Extra-curriculum support for experiential learning, e.g. lullavim for Succot, sharing Mishloach Manot, seder meal;
- Teaching both within, alongside and outside of National Curriculum subjects, for the purpose of enhancement of the broader Jewish ethos of the school;
- Contributions to support the development of the premises which enhance all the children's learning;

All of the above contribute to the broad effectiveness of the school and benefit all pupils. The school does not classify these benefits narrowly.

3 Residential visits

- 3.1** If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in 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 for the board and lodging and transport. Account is taken of the pupils' parents' receipt of income support, support allowances, tax credits etc. The school may remit or subsidise these charges by application to voluntary organisations or charities e.g. PGL assistance, Simon Marks Jewish Primary School Trust. This information will be provided to the school confidentially.

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

5 Swimming

- 5.1** The school organises swimming lessons for Year 4 children. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We therefore make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part.

6 Cookery

- 6.1** The school buys ingredients centrally for some D&T lessons and cookery in creative links lessons. Parents are asked to cover these costs. Children take part in these lessons whether their parents contribute or not as the school subsidises the cost for those who cannot pay.

7 Before and After School Sport and Creative Activities

- 7.1** The school offers additional activities as part of its commitment to the extended day. We reserve the right to make a charge for these sessions. A number of after school activities are out-sourced to organisations and charges are made for these activities.