



GEARIES PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHARGING POLICY

1. Introduction

This Charging Policy has been approved in accordance with sections 449-462 of the Education Act, 1996.

2. School Trips

The school will ask for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of all day trips when costs are incurred. No child will be excluded on the basis of non-payment however the school may have to cancel the trip if insufficient contributions are made.

3. Activities Outside School Hours

The school may charge for activities, which take place outside of school hours. However, the actual charge will not exceed the actual cost of the provision. Participation in any optional extra activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to meet the charges.

4. Residential Trips

The school will make a charge for the full cost of board and lodging. Parents/carers in receipt of certain benefits may be eligible for an exemption. The Head Teacher will inform all parents of the right to claim free board and lodging if they are receiving these benefits. Any remission of charges is at the discretion of the school/governors.

5. Examination Entries

The school does not pay any examination fees.

6. Materials for Art, Craft and Design, and Design and Technology

Pupils are not charged for materials for these subjects. A voluntary contribution is asked from parents and carers in the Foundation Stage and Year 1 classes to cover the costs of craft and cookery activities.

7. Music Tuition

In accordance with The Charges for Music Tuition (England) Regulations 2007 charges may now be made for vocal or instrumental tuition provided either individually, or to groups of any size, provided that the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent. Charges may not exceed the cost of the provision, including the cost of the staff that provide the tuition.

However, charging may not be made if the teaching is either an essential part of the national curriculum, or is provided under the first access to the Key Stage 2 Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Programme.

No charge may be made in respect of a pupil who is looked after by a local authority (within the meaning of section 22(l) of the Children Act 1989).

All costs of paid music tuition are passed on to the parents of children taking part.

Children from disadvantaged backgrounds are eligible for the fees to be met or partially met via the Pupil Premium Grant, upon application. Each relevant instance will be considered individually.



8. Damage/Loss to Property

A charge may be levied in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of school property (including premises, furniture, equipment, books or materials), the charge to be the cost of replacement or repair, or such lower cost as the Head Teacher may decide.

A charge may be levied in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of property (including premises, furniture, equipment, books or materials) belonging to a third party, where the cost has been recharged to the school. The charge to be the cost of replacement or repair, or such lower cost as the Co-Head Teachers may decide.

9. Remissions Policy

- The Co-Head Teachers or the Board of Governors, may remit in full or part, charges in respect of a pupil, if they feel it is reasonable in the circumstances.
- The Co-Head Teachers or the Board of Governors, may decide not to levy charges in respect of a particular activity, if they feel it is reasonable in the circumstances.

10. Review

This policy was approved by the Board of Governors following the review in 2025. This will be reviewed again each year.

September 2025