

Branton Community Primary School
and
Breamish Valley Community Nursery



Charging Policy

Updated February 2021

Branton Primary School Charging Policy

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum in school with the exception of individual music tuition or instrument hire to enable children to take instruments home.

School Lunches

The cost for school lunches is currently £2.20 per day, or £11.00 per week. Parents will be notified in advance of any changes to this amount.

Parents of children in Nursery and Key Stage 2 (years 3, 4, 5 and 6) pay for lunches.

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to receive Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) through a government funded scheme where all infant age pupils are entitled to a hot school meal free of charge regardless of individual financial circumstances.

It is still essential that if you are entitled to income related free school meals you apply as greater benefits will be received for yourself and for school.

We ask that lunches are paid for in advance. If more than ten days dinner money is outstanding we may ask that you provide packed lunches for your child until the outstanding amount is paid.

You can

- pay each **Monday** for the lunches for that week
- pay for the **half term**, at the beginning of the half term, if you are unsure of the amount/number of days, please ask
- pay for the **term**, at the beginning of the term; again please ask if you are unsure of the amount/number of days

All payments are made electronically via School Money. You will receive login details once your child is on roll at the school or nursery.

If your child is absent from school for any reason, we will carry forward that credit to the next payment due.

Milk

In the autumn and spring terms due to the uncertainty around attendance we made the decision not to charge parents for the milk we offer each day to the children. (Charges only apply to children of 5 years of age and older). All children have been offered milk throughout these terms.

For the summer term we do need to reinstate the charge for milk, Mrs McCann will be in touch with the costs for the summer and then towards the end of the year, the autumn term. Milk for schools was previously subsidised by the European Union.

Nursery

All children who are 3 – 4 years old are entitled to 15 hours. Some children will qualify for an additional 15 hours of funding dependent on eligibility requirements and information can be found at

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

There is funding available for 2 year olds which again is dependent on the family meeting the eligibility requirements and information is available following the link above.

At Breamish Valley Community Nursery we offer paid for sessions for any families who do not meet the eligibility requirements and the current costs are available on the school website, on request from the school and also detailed at the end of this document.

We ask that sessions are booked and paid for in advance, and you will be alerted to any outstanding amounts via School Money by text and/or email. Sessions booked need to be paid for even if your child does then not attend, so unfortunately no refunds will be given.

Voluntary contributions

*Please note that current Government Guidance advises against any Educational Visits. This Guidance will be reviewed and updated as appropriate.

When organising school visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites 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. Cancellation will be based on affordability. 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.

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. Often 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.

The following is a list of additional activities organized by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;

- school trips;
- musical events.

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, it is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and coach costs. Parents who receive state benefits are exempt from payment.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this whole school group activity although as stipulated above we may need to charge for instrument hire to cover the insurance costs of allowing your child to take their instrument home. The current cost of this insurance is £10.00 per term per child.

There is a charge for individual or small group music tuition if this is not part of our timetabled curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition if it is available at the start of each academic year and this tuition is provided by Music Partnership North.

Swimming

The Government Guidance for the full reopening of schools from March 8th 2021 advises against any educational visits or travel. Therefore for the rest of the academic year 2020 – 2021, up to July 2021, we are suspending our swimming sessions as we have to travel to Willowburn Leisure Centre in Alnwick. The children will have two in school PE sessions per week.

Before and after school provision

From January 2020 we operated an after school club called Branton Buddies. Sessions ran from the end of the school day up to 6pm, (5pm on a Friday) on demand.

Branton Buddies sessions have been suspended since the first lockdown in March 2020.

We work closely with local childminders, including Mrs Sheila Liddell, who has collected children from our school and nursery for many years, and we know that all childminders have worked throughout the various lockdowns and they have worked so hard to support local families during recent times. We would ask that you contact them in the first instance.

However, on full reopening in March 2021, we are happy to receive expressions of interest for our after school sessions, and our visiting sports coaches have offered to do after school activities. They do require a minimum number to attend, so it may be worth a conversation with other parents if you would like us to run sessions. Please contact us to discuss your requirements.

After school activities

After School Activity Clubs provided by an external provider, such as Trident Soccer, Thunder Rugby, and Alnwick Lawn Tennis Club and are part of our Branton Buddies after school offer. Sessions are booked and paid for via School Money.

Zoë Ryan

Headteacher

Reviewed February 2021

Nursery Costs Summer Term 2021

Nursery Costs for children not eligible for funding from 1st April 2021

Half day sessions

- Morning session - **£12.00** 9am -12pm
- Afternoon session - **£10.00** 12.30 pm – 3.00 pm

Full day sessions

- Full day – morning and afternoon **£22.00**

These costs are for the summer term 2021 and are based on a rate of £4.00 per hour.

We give notice that this hourly rate will increase to £4.50 per hour from 1st September 2021 and is subject to change.

Lunches (from 12.00 to 12.30 pm each day)

Lunch costs for children attending funded 2, 3 or 4 year old sessions

- £2.20 per day, payable in advance.

Lunch costs will be reviewed for September 2021.

If you wish to use child care vouchers, please speak to Mrs McCann.

All payments are made via **School Money**. Once your child is registered with us, and following their first day of attendance, you will receive login details to access the site.