

# **Canning Street Primary School**

## **Charging for School Activities**

### **Policy**

#### **Rationale**

The Education Reform Act required that LAs and Governing Bodies draw up charging policies, which set out the circumstances in which charges will be made in whole or in part.

#### **Position Statement**

We support the maintenance of the right to free education for all of our pupils.

We are conscious of the fact that this school is situated in an area of high levels of socio-economic deprivation and that many of our pupils' parents have little disposable income. Consequently we are anxious to ensure that they have the fullest possible access to a broad and balanced curriculum (and high standards of education) and that such access is not dependent upon the ability to pay.

It has long been the practice of this school to provide a range of enrichment activities and educational visits for our pupils. (These are occasionally dependent upon voluntary contributions). However, there is no obligation to contribute financially and no pupil will be prevented from taking part due to an inability to pay. In the event of there being insufficient voluntary contributions to meet the costs of a planned activity it may be necessary to cancel the activity.

We do not charge for books or resources to support children's learning. We do not charge for routine lessons or tuition.

#### **Aims**

We aim to:

- provide a broad and balanced curriculum, which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum.
- provide a range of visits and enrichment activities that will promote and enhance the spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional, cultural and aesthetic development of our pupils.
- provide enrichment activities at little or no cost to parents whenever possible.
- access support and funding from available sources so as to keep the need for financial contributions from parents to a minimum.
- ensure that all pupils have equal opportunities to access enrichment activities irrespective of gender, race or ability to pay.

#### **Objectives**

We intend to:

- provide parents with information about our charging policy
- ensure that enrichment activities are relevant to pupils' needs and provide good value for money
- try to access enrichment activities that are free (or are subsidised by providers) whenever possible
- ensure that we are sensitive to parents' potential financial difficulties and that such issues are handled with care, sensitivity and confidentiality
- encourage parents to help with visits etc. on a voluntary basis

- try to help parents who want to make voluntary financial contributions to do so by allowing payments to be made in instalments (where possible)
- ensure that all financial contributions received are paid into the relevant accounts, thereby ensuring financial probity

### **Conclusion**

Canning Street Primary School has a history of providing a wide range of visits and enrichment activities for our pupils. We have established contacts with several organisations that support our efforts by helping with funding. We believe that our approach to curriculum enrichment together with our charging policy helps to promote personal development and raises standards of educational achievement for our pupils.

**Mrs Kathryn Herron**  
Headteacher

November 2018