



DAWPOOL

Dawpool C.E. (Aided) Primary School

Charging Policy



*'The Fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Patience,
Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness
and Self-Control'*

(Galatians 5: 22-23).

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Introduction

The Education Reform Act (1988) introduced provisions on charging for school activities. The purposes of these provisions are:

- To maintain the right to a free school education
- To ensure that activities are offered as part of the National Curriculum and wholly within school time should be available to all pupils, regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost
- To give educational authorities and schools the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours
- To confirm that schools may invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of any activity organised by the school, either in or outside school hours.

The Governors believe that activities such as swimming and educational visits (or visitors) are an extension to, and an enrichment of the curriculum. They have adopted the LA Policy of Charging for School Activities, which allows the school to ask for voluntary contributions from parents to support these activities. The policy is reviewed annually.

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual music tuition.

Voluntary Contributions

When organising school trips or 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 have to cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid the full 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. Sometimes 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. In the case of residential trips when the school has to make a commitment in advance, any deposit received from the parents will be non-refundable.

Additional Activities

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

- School visits: eg visits to museums
- Sporting activities which require transport
- Outdoor adventure activities and residential visits
- Visits to the theatre
- School trips
- Musical events
- Visiting experts

Payments for school trips are paid into the School Fund account and cheques for these should be made payable to Dawpool Primary School.

Clubs

Some of the clubs offered by our school are provided by external providers and not school staff. There will be a cost attached to these clubs as they are not provided by our own staff.

Clubs provided by school staff will be free. However, there may be a small charge for equipment used in the clubs.



Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we make a charge to cover the costs of any workshops and travel expenses. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to speak in confidence to the Head Teacher.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. There is a charge for individual music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum.

Music tuition provided by the Local Authority Peripatetic music teachers are charged by the school. Parents pay the school and the school will be charged for the time spent by the teacher at the school. The cost of this time is split equally amongst the parents. Parents can also hire instruments from the Music Service and this is charged for separately by them. Parents who are entitled to receive free school meals for their children can access free music tuition through the local authority music service. The peripatetic music teachers are currently Mr Glenn Thomas and Miss Jayne Laird.

The school also offers music tuition via two private music teachers. Bills and payments for the services of these private teachers are dealt with entirely by the teachers themselves and the contract entered into is a private contract between the parent and the provider and does not involve the school. The private music teachers currently are Mr Simon Harper and Mrs Debbie Darlington.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in Year 5. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for the swimming lessons or the transport to the swimming baths.



School Meals

Charges will be made for school meals unless pupils have a current Free School Meal registration. Parents who believe that their child may be eligible for Free School Meals should make an application via Wirral Council. If this application is granted, the Council will inform the school directly.

Children in Key Stage 1 receive free school meals as part of a Government initiative to provide all infant children with a free meal. Charges for meals will begin when children move into Year 3.

The current charges for children's school meals are £2.20 per day. Payments are made at least weekly in advance although parents can pay half-termly or termly in advance to suit. Cheques for school meals must be made payable to Wirral Borough Council as all monies received will be paid into the school budget account as meal income.

Staff and Visitors can have a school meal. These are charged at £2.65 per day.

Toast

We offer toast as a snack during morning break. This has been a long-held tradition at Dawpool and offers children a warm, healthy and welcome alternative to a piece of fruit. Toast is charged at £1.00 per week and is paid for half-termly in advance. Payments for toast are paid into our School Fund account and cheques should therefore be made payable to Dawpool Primary School.

Milk

Children in Key Stage 1 can receive milk if their parents wish. Milk for children under the age of 5 is free and is paid for by the Government, however, parents must register their child to receive this milk. Parents wishing for their child to receive a carton of milk each day must contact www.coolmilk.com directly to join the milk scheme. After the age of 5, the cost of providing the carton of milk will be charged to parents who have joined the scheme. The cost is in the region of £15 per term.



Wrap-around Care

Dawpool provide an in-house Breakfast Club and After-school Club. Charges for this facility are payable monthly in advance. Payments are paid directly into our School Budget and cheques should be made payable to Wirral Borough Council.

We also accept payments via Childcare Vouchers from a number of different providers. Please ask at the school office for further details on the providers currently used by the school.

Breakfast Club sessions are charged as follows:

£5.50 per session for children in Foundation 1

£5.00 per session for children in Foundation 2 and above

After-School Club sessions are charged as follows:

£9.50 per session for children in Foundation 1

£9.00 per session for children in Foundation 2 and above

Foundation 1

Dawpool has a Foundation 1 setting. The Government provide up to five funded sessions per week. However, if parents would like their child to attend for more sessions than their free allocation then they can pay for these additional sessions.

Charges for additional sessions are **£12.00 per session**

Children can also stay for lunch. They will require a packed lunch. There is a cost for the lunchtime session of **£4.50 per session**



Additional sessions and lunchtime sessions are billed monthly in advance. Payments are paid directly into our School Budget and cheques should be made payable to Wirral Borough Council.

We also accept payments via Childcare Vouchers from a number of different providers. Please ask at the school office for further details on the providers currently used by the school.