

Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

School Number 840 3087

Westcroft

Stanhope

Bishop Auckland

Co Durham

**DL13 2NU** 

Tel: 01388 528218

Email: admin@stanhopebarrington.org.uk

Website: www.stanhopebarrington.durham.sch.uk

Dear Parent/Carer 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## Re: Saving scheme for Educational Visits

Some time ago we explored the possibility of setting up a facility on Parent Pay for parents & carers to be able to 'save' up for Educational visits and trips so that they could spread the cost of school events. As part of our Poverty Proofing Plan, we endeavour to keep the cost of trips and visits to a minimum, however, given our rural location the biggest cost is that of transport.

We seek to keep Educational visits and trips to one per term (3 per year) and seek to fund other events through grants or donations.

The Friends of Stanhope Barrington seek to subsidise each trip by £7.50 so that every child in school receives a subsidy of £22.50 per annum.

Given the current cost of living crisis we are all experiencing and the increase in transport costs, we have been working with Parent Pay to set up a system whereby parents & carers can now put aside money towards these additional costs. There have been some logistical and administrative issues to resolve which why it has taken us some time to set this system up.

With effect from today (24<sup>th</sup> January 2023) parents & carers can begin to pay as little as £1 into their Parent Pay account under the category of Trip Payments. You can pay as little or as much as you choose between the parameters of £1 (minimum) and £100 (maximum). As a guide, we try to keep the cost for each trip to £20 maximum.

Children will definitely have three educational visits per year as follows:

Autumn Term	Whole school visit to Panto
Spring Term	Learning Zone or Year
	group educational visit
	linked to curriculum
Summer Term	As above

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust is a company limited by guarantee (company number 10847279) and exempt charity registered in England and Wales at Cuthbert House, Stonebridge, Durham, DH1 3RY











Any special trips, such as the Year 5&6 educational visit to London in June 2023, will have it's own payment plan set up and parents will be informed of these details separately.

This facility on Parent Pay is just so that we can offer you the opportunity to spread the cost and avoid having three events throughout the year which will cost a significant amount of money.

Please note that you will be 'saving' up for trips which may not yet be planned, costed or booked and therefore exact costs can only be shared nearer the time. An individual letter will always be sent out for each educational visit confirming the exact costs and arrangements and will give a date by which payment must be made.

Please be reassured that any over-payment will be refunded at the end of each academic year or you may choose to have any additional money transferred to other costs such as school dinners or uniform.

This is merely an offer of this facility and parents can still make a one-off payment at the time educational visits are confirmed.

I am delighted that we are now able to offer this 'saving' facility and hope that it will help parents & carers with financial planning across the year.

I appreciate that it is a totally new method of paying for educational visits and trips so if you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross

Mrs D Cross Head Teacher











