



St. George's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Charging and Remissions Policy

At St. George's Catholic Primary School we encourage each child to recognise their own value both as an individual and as part of the school family. We expect and encourage a high standard of positive behaviour in relationships with other pupils, staff, parents and visitors.

We aim to enable every individual, made in the image and likeness of God, to learn, grow and reach their full potential.

We aim to be a loving Christian family living the values of the Gospel... developing caring relationships with the local and wider community

(School Mission Statement aims)

To learn with kindness, respect and friendship through God's love.

Introduction

The Headteacher and Governing body recognise the value of providing a varied and diverse range of experiences for all our pupils to support their learning and on-going personal development. We aim to provide such experiences for all our pupils as part of the broad and balanced curriculum we deliver and as additional opportunities and activities. Many of these activities do have an associated cost and cannot be provided unless voluntary contributions are received, or in some cases we charge parents.

This policy sets out the circumstances in which we will or will not charge for activities or when charges may be waived in order to ensure that all pupils have an equal opportunity to benefit from school trips, visits, curricular or extra-curricular activities.

Voluntary Contributions

At St George's, we aim to make all our activities accessible to all pupils regardless of their family income. We also aim to ensure that the activities that do take place are at a minimum cost to parents and to the school.

When organising school trips and activities that enrich the curriculum and experiences for our pupils, we invite parents to contribute to the costs incurred. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary costs, we may need to cancel a trip. However, we budget for a contingency fund to support families facing hardship and all parent requests from this fund are treated in confidence.

At times we may request help with providing activities even though they may be part of the normal school day or part of the National Curriculum. If parents are unable or are unwilling to pay then children will not be excluded from the activity. If sufficient contributions are not received the activity may be cancelled.

The following list highlights the types of activities or trips that may take place, organised by the school, which we feel contribute to the educational or personal development of our pupils. In these circumstances a voluntary contribution may be asked for. This list is not an exhaustive one:

- Visiting local museums and galleries
- Using transport to visit coastal areas or towns
- Trips to the theatre
- Learning to play a musical instrument in class
- Swimming lessons
- Visits for live performers/shows
- Trips to local farms and attractions
- Outdoor and adventurous activities
- After-school clubs run by teaching staff
- Residential visits

Situations when charges may be made

- For individual or small group tuition for playing a musical instrument. Even though this usually takes place within the school day, this is not part of the National Curriculum. These sessions are led by peripatetic teachers who visit the school and sessions are charged for termly. This information is given to parents at the start of the year and parents sign up to costs before tuition is started.
- For trips which are not part of the National Curriculum or are outside of the school day
- For Breakfast Club or After-School club
- Extra-curricular activities and clubs which are run by qualified staff or coaches who are not members of the school staff. These have included clubs such as: Mad Science Club; Active Soccer; Judo, etc.
- For damage to school property, costs of replacing books or equipment where this has been a result of pupil behaviour
- Wrap-around care for our Nursery children

Remissions

Where the parents of a pupil are currently in receipt of state benefits which would entitle their child to receive free school meals the Governing Body will remit in full the cost of board and lodging for any residential activity.

In other circumstances the Governing Body will invite parents to apply in confidence to the Headteacher for the remission of charges in part or full. The Headteacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors will make authorisation of remissions.

REVIEW DATE: January 2023