



# Charitable Giving Guidance



**September 2023 – September 2025**



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# **Charitable Giving Guidance**

**Date of Policy:** September 2023

**Review Policy:** September 2025

## **Foreword To All School Policies**

The separate document 'Foreword To All School Policies' should be considered as part of every school policy as it places our policies and our work in their full context.

### **1. Background Context:**

Fundraising for a range of good causes is an important part of school's culture. It helps to educate our children about the world around them and the challenges and difficulties faced by others. In addition to this families are asked to support PSA events that raise money for the school.

Dressing up/wearing own clothes days are fun for the children and are often used as a 'bartering tool' to ask for raffle prizes or goods for an upcoming event. Too many of these days can be counter-productive: they disrupt class time and can send out the message that the school uniform is not taken seriously.

This policy is in place to avoid having too many fundraisers in close succession as it helps to explain a 'system' to parents and those requesting fundraising events.

### **2. Aims of this policy:**

- To create an atmosphere of 'charity' within the school in which all our children and staff have an opportunity to demonstrate a loving kindness towards others and different causes which require support.
- To encourage and foster a respect for the world and its people with a Christian context.
- To ensure that all parties are informed of the context and reasons for charitable giving at Bishop Aldhelm's CE Primary School.
- To outline when and how charitable giving and school events are planned throughout the school year.
- To ensure that charitable giving is 'reasonable' within the context of school life and financial demands and provide a clear system for those requesting fundraising events (e.g. parents, PSA, staff and children).
- To enable children to learn from Christianity, and other Faiths in a way that promotes their spiritual, moral, cultural and cognitive development and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

### **3. Definition:**

Charitable giving or fundraising at Bishop Aldhelm's deals with the voluntary giving of help, typically in the form of money, to those in need or for a 'good cause' linked to the benefit of the school and its' ethos. It promotes a kindness and tolerance in judging others and the world around us. More importantly, linking to our core school values, charitable giving expresses a 'love of humankind' within a Christian context.

At Bishop Aldhelm's we promote the Christian example of giving through a biblical context:

**Matthew 25:35** *'For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;'*

**1 John 3:17 – 18** *'If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.'*

**2 Corinthians 9:7** *<sup>7</sup> Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

These principles are embedded within the 'Spirit of Bishop Aldhelm's' and our school values – See 'Foreword to All School Policies'.

## BISHOP ALDHELM'S VALUES

Our Values are at the core of all that we do at Bishop Aldhelm's. In addition to the aims of this policy, we see these times as opportunities to share and reinforce the values we seek to live by and to worship God in our charitable giving.

Based on our school vision with a theological underpinning of Psalm 23, the following bible references display the foundations of our core values:

- **Love – 1 John 4:7** "Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Whoever loves, is a child of God and knows God." **1 John 4:19** "We love, because God loved us first."
- **Inspiration – Philippians 4:13** "I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me." **Philippians 4:8** "Fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely and honourable."
- **Unity – Romans 12:5** "Though we are many, we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined to each other as different parts of one body." **Colossians 3:13-14** "You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you. And to these qualities add love which binds all things together in perfect unity."
- **Courage - Psalm 56:3** "When I am afraid, O Lord Almighty, I put my trust in you" **Joshua 1:9** "...be determined and confident! Do not be afraid or discouraged, for I, the Lord your God, am with you go."



### 4. Annual cycle of school events and regular charity appeals

\*Not all these events are supported each year.

	School Event	Charity	PSA (Supported & Fundraising)
September		Macmillan Coffee Morning	
September	Sports Days		
October	Harvest Celebration	Poole Foodbank World Homelessness Day – YMCA/Save the Children	
November	Remembrance Day Friendship Week	Royal Legion – Poppy Appeal Children in Need	
December	Foundation – Nativity Year 1 – Nativity Year 2 – Christmas Christingle KS2 Carol Service Christmas Tree Festival @ St Aldhelm's Church	Wishing Tree – Charities via Gateway Church	Christmas Fayre
January		Charity of the year event (chosen by School Council)	
February	Internet Safety Day		
March	World Book Day	Comic/Sport Relief	KS2 Disco EYFS + KS1 Entertainers
April	Easter Experience		
May	Year 6 SATS	Christian Aid Week	
June	Year 6 Pilgrimage to St Aldhelm's Head Chapel Year 6 Residential Year 4 Residential		Summer Fayre

	Summer Music Concert Year 6 Fiver Challenge		
<b>July</b>	Year 6 Summer Production Year 6 Leavers' Service		

It is also important to align with any charitable giving that St Aldhelm's Church is promoting as a way of strengthening the links that we have with the parish church.

## **5. Guidelines**

- **50% of the monies raised at each event will be given to the school PSA fund to help support the direct needs of the school (such as supporting forest school sessions). All letters and advertising used prior to events will explain this to ensure that we are open with our school community.**
- We support one big fundraiser per term. This is the type that could involve disruption (these have been highlighted in bold on the planner above)
- Ideally big fundraisers should not clash with other school events, such as sports or PSA fundraisers.
- There will be no last minute requests for school support. As a school we are not able to support every charity and/or topical issue.
- Food related events such as 'cake sales' or 'ice lolly sales' will be one per term and the charity chosen will be decided by the school council – most likely the 'charity of the year'. This is ideal for supporting any emergency events.
- There may be opportunities to fundraise for specific subjects/learning opportunities at school events (such as performances/sports events) however, consideration for the Charity of the Year must be given first.
- The Charity Policy will be promoted via the 'Charities Newsletter' which will be produced and made available to all stakeholders twice a year. This will promote forthcoming events and summarise the total fundraising amounts that have been achieved.

### **Charity of the year**

- All stakeholders are invited to suggest a charity to be put forward to be chosen as the Charity of the Year and must inform the Headship Team of this. One way that children can contribute is via their School Council Class Representative. The Headship Team will consider all options and create a shortlist.
- At the start of the year the School Council will vote on the chosen Charity of the Year from the shortlist presented by the Headship Team.
- The Charity of the Year will be promoted via the 'Charities Newsletter' which will be produced and made available to all stakeholders twice a year.
- Donations for the chosen charity will be collected via the school office all year round whilst also providing opportunities at school events (such as performances/sports events).

## **6. Monitoring and Review**

The monitoring of this policy and the charities that are supported is the responsibility Church School Subject Leader (in conjunction with the SMSC team) and the Headship team.

The Church School Leader (SMSC team) regularly discusses charitable giving with the Headteacher and provides an annual SMSC report in which s/he evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of charitable giving at the school and indicates areas for further improvement which supports the self-evaluation of the distinctiveness of being a church school.

The Governing Body have a duty to monitor and review the charitable giving at the school and this policy. They seek to do this through annually reviewing the policy, meeting with the Church School Subject Leader, the Headteacher and other senior leaders.