

**St. Ann's
R.C. Primary
School**

**Charging
Policy**

Our School's Mission Statement

'We, the family of St. Ann's, rejoice in our learning; striving for excellence. We challenge ourselves, follow Jesus and empower each other to be the best we can be. Motivate, learn, inspire.'

We Aim To:

- Ensure that education in school is free
- Ensure that activities offered wholly or mainly during normal school teaching time should be available to all pupils regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
- Ensure that there is no statutory requirement to charge for any form of education but the school has the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours.
- Ensure that the school has the right to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of activities organised by the school, whether during or outside school hours.

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 cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any 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. With school budgets reducing in real terms, the school relies on parental support to be able to offer these trips.
- The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:
 - Visits to museums
 - Sporting activities which require transport expenses
 - Outdoor adventure activities
 - Visits to the Theatre
 - Musical events
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Residential visits

If the school organises a residential trip in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of the board, lodging and travel expenses, which can be made by instalments. If parents are experiencing financial difficulties they are invited to contact the Headteacher in confidence.

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 or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The music teachers teach individual or small group lessons and make a charge for these lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition available each academic year.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in Year 4. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the curriculum. There is no charge to parents/carers for these lessons.

Out of school hours clubs

Parents/carers may be charged for activities which happen outside school hours e.g. activity clubs, when these activities are not part of the national curriculum or for religious education. Charges will be made for other activities which happen outside school hours if the parents/carers agree to pay.

Remissions

The Governing Body may wish to remit in full or in part the cost of other activities for particular groups of parents, for example, in the case of family hardship. When arranging a chargeable activity such parents will be invited in confidence for the remission of charges in full or in part. Authorisation for such remission will be made by the Head Teacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors.