



ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Policy for charging for school activities 2015 - 2017

Under the Education Reform Act 1988, the Governing Body of St. John's Catholic Primary School must formulate its own policy on charges for school activities. This is as follows:

School Trips and Educational Visits:

1. ***There will be no compulsory charges for any activities taking place during school hours. However, payment to cover the cost of swimming tuition and the transport to and from the swimming pool will be sought. Exception will only be made in very particular circumstances as outlined below in section 8.***
2. ***The School does not seek to make a profit from School trips and visits.***
3. Although costings will be calculated so that the total amount of a trip can be covered when divided by the number of children partaking in the trip, and that amount per person advised to parents / carers, any costs will be funded by voluntary contributions. There will be no obligation to contribute and the whole group will be treated exactly the same.
4. Some activities may not take place if the necessary funding is not sufficient to pay essential fees.
5. We will make a small charge for pottery, cookery and technology where the finished item is taken home, and for dramatic performances where the children are the audience.
6. Individual music tuition is charged. The Hertfordshire Music Service operates a remission policy in relation to fees for this tuition in certain circumstances. Remission can be applied for when families are applying for Free School Meals.
7. A charge will be made for the board and lodging costs of a residential visit and voluntary contribution for the travel elements.
8. Where the trip takes place wholly or mainly during school hours, children whose parents are in receipt of the following support payments will, in addition to having a free school lunch entitlement, also be entitled to support in meeting the above charges where exceptional need can be demonstrated. However, before this, the school will try to

organise a payment plan with the family, or support them in obtaining a grant from a recognised charitable organisation.

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Child Tax Credit provided the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income, assessed by the Inland Revenue, does not exceed the annual limit.

The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

A similar entitlement applies where the trip takes place outside of school hours but it is necessary as part of the National Curriculum, forms part of the syllabus for test preparation or is part of religious education.

9. Where other families claim financial difficulties the school will organise a payment plan with the family, or in exceptional circumstances undertake to support them in obtaining a grant from a recognised charitable organisation.

If insufficient contributions are received the school may be forced to cancel the activity.

Instrumental Music Lessons:

10. A charge may be made for instrumental music tuition for up to and including four children in a group. Exception is given if the tuition forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the school is preparing the child to sit, or is part of the National Curriculum or the syllabus for religious education – in which case a charge is not permissible.

Breakfast and Lunch club:-

11. The School operates a Breakfast Club. The current charge is £4.00 per day.
The School operates a Lunch Club. The current charge is £4.00 per day, with an extra cost for school lunch.

Public Examinations:

12. No charge is made for entering children for public examinations – SAT's tests. However, charging is allowed for tuition and other costs if a pupil is prepared outside school hours for an examination that is not set out in regulations.

This Policy will be reviewed by the Governors bi-annually and is due for review in the Spring Term, 2017

Signed.....Chair of Governors.

Date:.....