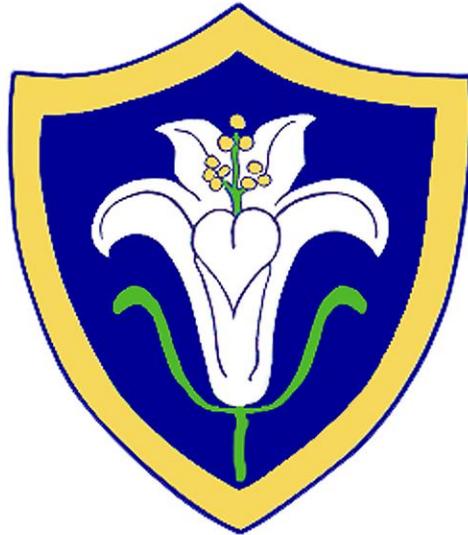


ST MARY'S CE (VC) JUNIOR SCHOOL

CHARGING POLICY

September 2015

To be reviewed September 2017



# **ST MARY'S JUNIOR SCHOOL** **CHARGING POLICY**

## **CHARGING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

The Local Authority or Governing Body may not charge for anything unless they have drawn up a statement or general policy on charging. The Governing Body's policy may be more or less generous than the Local Authority's, as long as it meets the requirements of the law.

In general, no charge can be made for admitting pupils to maintained schools. Where education is provided wholly or mainly during school hours, it must be free. However, the school may charge for activities outside of school hours where these are not a necessary part of the national curriculum. Provision before and after the school day, which delivers the National Curriculum or prepares a child for a public examination, may not be charged for.

### **Voluntary Contributions**

The Headteacher or Governing Body may ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of:

- any activity which takes place during school hours;
- school equipment;
- school funds generally.

The contribution must be genuinely voluntary, though, and the pupils of parents who are unable or unwilling to contribute will not be discriminated against. Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and there is no way to make up the shortfall, then it will be cancelled and parents will be made aware of this.

### **Residential Trips**

Schools are permitted to charge for the cost of board and lodging during residential school trips, even if they occur mainly during school time. This cost must not exceed the actual cost of the provision. The school can ask for a contribution towards educational or travel elements. Again, where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible for all of the children, and there is no provision to make up the shortfall, then the activity will regrettably be cancelled.

Where the trip takes place wholly, or mainly, during school hours, children whose parents are in receipt of free school meals will also be entitled to funding through pupil premium for school visits.

### **Instrumental Music Lessons**

A charge is permitted for instrumental music tuition undertaken in school hours for up to and including four pupils, unless the tuition forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination

Charges may not be made for any cost associated with preparing a pupil for an examination. 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.

### **Out of school hours activity**

Any profits made by school from providing facilities or services must be reinvested in the school or in the service.

Schools may use the delegated budget to subsidise a child's access to chargeable extended activities, where we consider that the activities are provided for the purposes of the school, because they are of educational benefit to the child.

Schools may lawfully charge for study support (other than that which delivers the National Curriculum or preparation for a public examination) e.g. additional sports, cooking, drama and music clubs, holiday activities, visits and additional courses, eg. bikeability

### **Pupil Premium**

Pupil premium funding delegated through the school budget is allocated to support pupils who are or have been eligible for free school meals at any time in the last six years or who have a parent serving in the armed services or who are looked after by the local authority. The purpose is to narrow any learning gap between children in this vulnerable group compared with the main cohort of the school.

Pupils eligible for pupil premium will be subsidised or in some cases fully funded for all additionally funded school activities.

Signed: *Patricia Jenkins* (Headteacher)

Date: Sep 2015

*Rosemary Charsley* (Chair of Governors) Date: Sep 2015