



St. Winefride's Catholic Primary School

Charging and Remission (Pupils) Policy

Mission Statement

Welcome to St Winefride's where we come together to LEARN, LAUGH, LISTEN, LIVE and LOVE in the presence of Jesus.

At our school, we believe that everyone is valued as a unique gift from God.

We work together to create an engaging learning environment, where all children are challenged to achieve their full potential.

Rationale

The Education Reform Act (1988) introduced new provisions on charging for school activities. The purposes of these provisions are:

- to maintain the right to a free school education,
- to ensure that activities offered as part of the National Curriculum and wholly within normal school time should be available to all pupils, regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost,
- to give local authorities and schools the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours,
- to confirm that schools may invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of any activity organised by the school, either in or outside school hours,

Voluntary contributions – curriculum linked

The Governors believe that activities such as educational visits (or visitors to the school) are an extension to, and an enrichment of the curriculum. They have adopted the LA Policy of Charging for School Activities, which allows the school to ask for contributions from parents to support these activities. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient contributions, we may cancel a trip. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request. In the case of residential trips, when school has to make a commitment in advance, any deposit received from the parents will be non-refundable.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, where we seek contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:

- day visits, for example, to museums, theatre, musical events,
- residential visits,
- sporting activities, which require transport expenses such as swimming*,
- outside agencies brought into school to enhance curriculum,
- donation towards the cost of materials and ingredients**

School requests that parents/carers make a donation that covers the cost of any activities to be undertaken, travel expenses, admittance charges, board and lodgings (in the case of residential visits). If parents are

experiencing financial difficulty, they are invited to speak in confidence to the Head teacher, whereby an agreement may be reached with parents for payment or part payment. In the case of residential visits, parents/carers are asked to cover the cost of the board and lodging aspect of the visit, while the school pays for the activities. **Refer to Remissions.**

*The school organises swimming lessons for children from Year 3 to Year 6. We make no charge for the swimming lessons but request a contribution for the cost of the coach to take the children to Neston Recreation Centre. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons. **Refer to Remissions.**

**The Governing Body reserves the right to charge for ingredients and materials, required for subjects, such as DT, Food Technology and some Art and Craft work (particularly if the child is taking the finished produce home) , or require them to be provided if the parents have indicated in advance that they wish to own the finished product.

The Governing Body may from time to time, amend the categories of activity for which a charge may be made. Nothing in this policy statement precludes the Governing Body from inviting parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of additional activities which take place in school time. Parents may be advised that the continuance of an activity may depend upon voluntary contributions, but once it has been decided to run such an activity no child will be excluded on the grounds of non-payment of voluntary contributions.

Additional Charges (activities run by external agencies)

Charges will be applied in the following areas –

- **Music tuition** - This tuition is in addition to the Music curriculum that all children are entitled to as part of the National Curriculum. There is a charge for this individual music tuition provided by a peripatetic music teacher from Tafelmusik.
- **Activities outside School Hours** - The full cost to each pupil of all approved activities deemed to be optional extras taking place outside school hours; this includes activities provided by Sports' Clubs such as S4YC.

Remission

Any parents of a pupil in receipt of benefits, whereby the child receives Free School Meals, entitles the school to £1300 additional funding per year (Pupil Premium) or up to £1900 for a 'looked-after' or 'adopted from care' child (Pupil Premium Plus). If the child's parents or carers request it, this funding can be used to provide sport or music (or any other extra-curricular) activity. This funding can also be used to pay for activities linked to the curriculum, such as swimming, or for education visits, including residential visits.

Parents who are not in receipt of Pupil Premium but who can demonstrate financial hardship should contact the Head Teacher. The Governing Body has delegated authority to the Head Teacher to provide financial support in these circumstances and where an activity is deemed to take place in school hours or where it forms part of the syllabus for the National Curriculum.