

In a caring Christian community together we love, learn, laugh and achieve.

St Mark's Catholic Primary School

Charging Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies in respect of charging for School Activities.

1.2 All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

2 Voluntary contributions

2.1 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.

2.2 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. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

2.3 The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums;**
- outdoor adventure activities;**
- visits to the theatre;**
- musical events.**

3 Residential visits

The school organises a residential trip each year for Year 6 children. Parents/Carers have to pay for the cost of the trip, but are given eight months notice and are provided with the facility to make weekly contributions towards the costs. The school subsidises the cost of residential trips and transport.

4 Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. Year 4 children receive weekly Steel Pan lessons. We do not charge for this.

5 Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 1 and 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. There is no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

6 Club Activities

Extra-curricular clubs and societies operate at various periods during the academic year. There is no charge for these activities.

7 Breakfast Club

This is available for all pupils from 8.00am to 8.55am. A charge of £2.00 per day per child is made. Children of staff may attend Breakfast Club at a reduced price of £1.00. Disadvantaged children may be given a free place following discussion with Mrs Sellers.