

St John's Church of England School

'I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength'

Philippians 4:13



CHARGING, VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND REMISSIONS POLICY

Reviewed: Summer 2023

Due for review: Summer 2025

Vision

'.....I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength'. Phil 4:13.

Our ethos is deeply rooted in the Bible, underpinned by **faith** and committed to educational excellence. In our community we respect that everyone is uniquely made in the image of God. We grow together in **wisdom, compassion, strength** and instil a sense of **hope** for all to flourish.

'We make a difference'

Core Values

Faith – Is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see

Strength – Faith is God presents us with the strength to build and progress in our life and the lives of others.

Compassion – We are fair, we care and show understanding towards others.

Wisdom – Building confidence, discipline and knowledge to fully develop our talents in all areas of our lives.

Hope – Coping wisely with situations that will help guide us into fulfilling our aspirations

Statement of Aims

We are a Christian School working together to inspire and empower each child to lead a happy and fulfilling life.

We:-

- **Work together and be the best we can.**
- **Care for and support one another.**
- **Respect and value one another and the environment.**

Our aims are to work together and be the best we can; to care for and support one another and to respect and value one another and the environment.

Policy on Charging

1 Introduction

- 1.1 All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. 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 to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. 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, and the school provides this information on request. If a contribution has been made for a child who is subsequently unable to participate in the trip, costs will only be refundable to parents in cases where the school is able to reclaim costs. The cost of coach travel will not be refundable as costs are based on all children travelling.
- 2.3 The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which may require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:
- visits to museums;
 - sporting activities which require transport expenses;
 - outdoor adventure activities;
 - visits to or by a theatre company;
 - musical events.

3 Residential visits

- 3.1 Any residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is not directly related to the National Curriculum, is charged fully to parents at cost.

4 Music tuition

- 4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2 There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. The school subsidises the cost of these lessons but expects parents to pay an agreed charge and to commit to a whole year of lessons in advance. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

- 5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity.

6 Clubs held during or after school

- 6.1 The school offers a range of sports, clubs and other activities during and after school. There is no charge for these clubs and activities where they are run or supervised by members of St John's staff.
- 6.2 Where clubs are run by external providers, a charge will be made by the provider.

7. Breakage or Damage to school Equipment.

- 7.1 In the event of any equipment or books being damaged by a pupil through unruly behaviour then the school reserves the right to ask the parents for a contribution towards the cost of repair or replacement.

8. General.

- 8.1 In all cases where voluntary contributions are requested, advance notification will be given to parents.

9. Pupil Premium / Remissions

- 9.1 The school is able to use Pupil Premium funding for any of the types of activities outlined above to support pupils who qualify for the funding. In cases of family hardship which make it difficult for parents to meet any charges to be made, parents are invited to apply in confidence for the remission of charges in part or full. Authorisation of remission will be made by the head teacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors.
- 9.2 Local Authority or Diocesan board grants for assistance on residential trips may be available on application. Contact the head teacher in confidence.

10. Monitoring and review

- 10.2 This policy is monitored by the governing body, and will be reviewed every two years, or earlier if necessary.

Signed:

Date: