



CHRIST CHURCH CE INFANT SCHOOL

CHARGING & REMISSION POLICY

Date of issue: Autumn 2015 Owner: Head teacher

Date of review: Autumn 2018 Governor Committee: Resources

Statement of Policy

Christ Church CE Infant School aims to value each pupil as an individual and enable them to achieve their full potential through a wide variety of opportunities and experiences during the school day. This document sets out the school's policy for charging for the provision of this wide variety of opportunities and experiences. Whilst the intention is to apply the policy equally in order to promote fairness, every effort will be made to ensure that no child is prevented from participating because of financial circumstances.

The school day is defined as 8.55am – 3.05pm

Relationship to Other School Policies

The policy complements the school's equal opportunities policy, curriculum policy and learning and teaching policy.

Roles and responsibilities of headteacher, other staff, governors

The headteacher will ensure that the following applies:

During the school day

All activities that are a necessary part of the National Curriculum plus religious education will be provided free of charge. This includes any materials, equipment and transport to take pupils between the school and the activity. It excludes charges made for teaching an individual pupil or groups of up to four pupils to play a musical instrument. Unless the teaching is an essential part of either the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil(s), we will make a charge.

Voluntary contributions may be sought for activities during the school day which entail additional costs, for example, swimming, special activities involving high cost materials, trips involving traveling to another venue or visitors to school who provide a service. In these circumstances no pupil will be prevented from participating because his/her parents cannot or will not make a contribution.

Experiences offered in School

- Each phase is responsible for providing enhanced learning experiences within school.
- The cost of providing these experiences is to be met by a voluntary contribution sought from parents of children within the phase who will benefit. The school will subsidise where possible from either the phase budget or school fund.
- It is not expected that there will be any profit made.

- Where voluntary contributions are sought, the school reserves the right to cancel if insufficient funding is received.
- No child is to be prevented from participating because a voluntary contribution has not been received but parents will be encouraged to pay.
- Once a voluntary contribution has been made, there will be no reimbursement for absentees on the day.
- Children will be treated equally regardless of the amount of voluntary contribution made by their parents.

Optional activities outside of the school day

We will charge for optional, extra activities provided outside of the school day, for example extra curricular clubs. Such activities are not part of the National Curriculum or religious education, nor are they part of an examination syllabus.

Education partly during the school day

If a non-residential activity happens partly inside the school day and partly outside of it, there will be no charge if most of the time to be spent on the activity falls within the school day. Conversely, if the bigger proportion of time spent falls outside of the normal school day, charges will be made. When such activities are arranged parents will be told how the charges were calculated.

Day Trips

- Charges levied for day trips will represent the actual cost of providing the trip. No profit will be made.
- Where the trip occurs during the school day, parents will be asked for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of their child's participation.
- Every effort will be made to ensure that the voluntary contributions are made but, if insufficient funding is received, the school reserves the right to cancel the trip.
- Once a trip has been paid for, there will be no reimbursement for absentees on the day.
- Where a child may be prevented from participating in an outing because of financial hardship, consideration should be given to reducing the voluntary contribution expected. Any shortfall is to be met from the School Fund.
- Where sponsorship or donations have been received towards the cost of the trips, it is for the school to decide how to use them. Contributions may be offset against the cost of the trip as a whole or used to reduce or remit the charge for individual children who would be unable to participate because of financial hardship.
- Children will be treated equally regardless of the amount of voluntary contribution made by their parents.

Residential Trips

- Charges will be made for board and lodging, except for pupils who meet the current free school meals eligibility criteria. Other charges will be made to cover costs where necessary following guidance. In such cases parents will be told how the charges were calculated.
- Charges levied for residential trips will represent the actual cost of providing the trip. It is not expected that there will be any profit made.
- An initial deposit is usually requested for such residential trips with the remaining cost paid in instalments. This initial deposit is non-refundable should a child subsequently not participate in a trip. A request for the refund of any further

payment must be made in writing by the parent and, if the cancellation is due to illness, a medical certificate may be required.

- Where sponsorship or donations have been received towards the cost of the trips, it is for the school to decide how to use them. Contributions may be offset against the cost of the trips as a whole or used to reduce or remit the charge for individual children who would be unable to participate because of financial hardship.
- Children will be treated equally regardless of the payment made by their parents.

Contribution to the School Fund

- The school fund exists to enhance the learning experiences of the children at Christ Church CE Infant School. It could be used to provide, for example, visits from theatre companies, the Zoo man or curriculum related workshops.
- Contributions to the fund are made by local charities, e.g. Meadowsweet and commission from organisations using the school, e.g. the school photographer.
- Parents are asked to make voluntary contributions to the School Fund to support activities such as swimming. All pupils will be treated equally regardless of whether we receive contributions.
- If an activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions it will be cancelled.
- The school may charge for clubs outside of normal school hours that are not part of the National Curriculum. The cost will be made for materials, resources or staff charges will not exceed the cost of the optional extras divided by the number of pupils participating.

Calculating charges

When charges are made for any activity, whether during or outside of the school day, they will be based on the actual costs incurred, divided by the total number of pupils participating. There will be no levy on those who can pay to support those who can't.

Support for cases of hardship will come through voluntary contributions and fundraising. Parents who would qualify for support are those who meet the free school meal eligibility criteria.

The principles of best value will be applied when planning activities that incur costs to the school and/or charges to parents.

Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation

The Resources Committee of the governing body will monitor the impact of this policy by receiving on a termly basis a financial report on those activities that resulted in charges being levied, the subsidies awarded (without giving names) and the source of those subsidies.

Headteacher

Date

Chair of Governors

Date