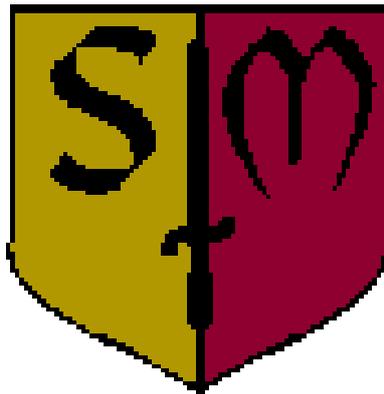


# **St Mary's Catholic Primary School**



## **Charging Policy**

**Learning and Loving  
Caring and Sharing  
through  
The message of Christ**



**St Mary's Catholic Primary School is a happy community where we are loved and valued as individuals.**

**As Disciples of Jesus, we learn together, pray together and celebrate together as one in God's love.**

**Together with parents/carers, the parish and the wider community, we prepare our children to live and build God's kingdom on earth.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The school operates a Charging Policy which sets out the general principles and specific conditions under which charges can be made. It strives to maintain the free nature of education in the delivery of the National Curriculum but highlights areas where extra curricular activities may require parental contributions. The Policy is available for inspection from the Headteacher.

This statement of Policy shall take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011, until such time as the Governing Body shall amend or change the Policy following any revised Policy from the Diocese or Wrexham Education Authority.

The Policy shall be reviewed regularly by the Governing Body.

The Policy shall be subject to the provisions as laid down in the 1988 Education Reform Act, Sections 106-111 and 118.

The Governing Body must:

- Comply with the conditions of the Education Reform Act.
- Ensure that as wide a range of extra curricular activities as possible will continue for the benefit of the pupils.
- Expand the activities within and without the school day.
- Parents will be informed of the statutory regulations regarding the charges for activities.

This Policy sets out the general principles and specific conditions under which charges may be made.

## **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

No charge will be made for admission to the school.

No charge will be made for activities which are part of the prescribed syllabus (except if specialist lessons are offered eg use of specialist centres and cost of buses; extra curricular dance, music tuition etc).

No child is to be disadvantaged because of parent/s, guardian/s inability or unwillingness to pay.

Parent/s, guardian/s will be invited to provide items of personal equipment intended to be used solely for their child.

With the exception of specified items, there shall be no charge for an educational activity which takes place wholly or mainly within school hours (school hours shall be those designated by the Governors in office at that time).

There will be a charge for some activities which take place to enhance the curriculum, which will be advised at the planning stage and if there are not enough voluntary contributions received then the activity will be cancelled.

### **CHARGES/VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

Charges will be made for board and lodgings on residential visits:

- For materials used in practical subjects where it is stated in advance that it is intended that the child owns the finished product,
- For the cost of transport to activities sanctioned but not provided by the LA or Governors.
- For loss or damage to property and equipment where this is as a result of a pupil's unsatisfactory behaviour.
- For the use of specialist coaching and facilities to enhance learning.
- Individual music tuition – where school budget cannot accommodate due to budget limit or extra lessons are offered by a specialist.
- For an added activity which, in the opinion of the Governors, will enhance a child's learning or understanding of a particular concept

or subject eg music concert, author at school, artist workshop etc where the cost cannot be funded from the school budget.

### **REMISSION OF CHARGES**

The Governing Body will seek to remit all or some of the charges in cases of hardship for:

- Music tuition
- Board and lodging for pupils whose family is in receipt of Family Credit/Income Support (within County owned establishment only). The Governors reserve the right to determine the amount of remission as a result of the total allocation made available by the LA.
- Other visits, residential experiences or equipment as the Governing Body shall determine.

### **VISITS ARRANGED BY A THIRD PARTY**

The Governing Body will not be party to any transactions between parents and a third party (the organisers of such visits).

### **VISITS OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS**

Charges will be made at the discretion of the Governing Body for activities which take place mainly or totally outside school hours ie more than 50% of the teaching day.

Parents/Guardians will be notified in advance if any charges are to be made.

Parents/Guardians will be required, when appropriate, to give prior agreement to bearing the cost of such optional activities.