



Charging and Remissions Policy

Mission Statement:

*'In St Margaret Mary's School
we welcome everyone into our community
in order to live, love and learn
together in the light and example of the life of Christ.'*

Charging and Remissions Policy

1. Introduction

As a Catholic School, St Margaret Mary Catholic Primary School is committed to providing excellent education based on our school aims and mission statement. In practice, this means the children have an entitlement to benefit from all educational activities to help them achieve "Fullness of Life".

Educational activities, whether inside or outside the school, during the school day or outside the school day are integral to school life. The educational experiences and opportunities provided are not essential part of the National Curriculum however at St Margaret Marys we deem them to be essential to the fulfilment of the school mission and aims.

At St Margaret Mary Catholic primary school we aim:

- To make school activities accessible to all children
- To encourage and promote external activities which give added value to the educational experience of the child and enrich the child's learning;
- To provide activities at a minimum cost to parents and the school

The range of activities offered depend upon a number of key factors:-

- The value of certain activities in relation to age/needs of pupils;
- The cost of activity set against their ability to fulfil the aims of the school;
- How the activity will be paid for;
- An assessment of whether the educational aims can be met in any other way;
- An understanding of the various types of activities involved – for example, educational visits, music tuition, visitors and guest speakers, rewards, workshops, community celebrations
- additional costs – for example pocket money.

2. Education Outside School Hours

Parents can be charged for activities that happen outside school hours when these activities are not a necessary part of the national curriculum or religious education.

It is the decision of the headteacher whether to charge for these activities.

3. Residential Activity

Residential visits are an important part of a child's personal development. We strongly urge parents to encourage their child to participate. However, parents have the choice as to whether they wish their child to attend.

There will normally be a charge for residential trips.

4. Education during School Hours

Parents will be asked by the school to contribute towards the cost of some activities taking place during the course of the school day. Parents can choose for this to be through school fund contributions or to pay for the events individually. As these activities are not necessarily an essential part of the national curriculum parents may choose whether they wish for their child to attend.

Although it is hoped and expected that all parents will make these voluntary contributions, if insufficient parents make a donation then the school reserves the right to cancel, change or postpone the activity if there are insufficient school funds. The charges made for any of the activities organised by the school will not exceed the cost of providing such an activity. Whenever

possible the school will use any funding available to subsidise the events and keep costs to parents to a minimum.

We will endeavour, therefore, to produce an annual programme of activities based on a clear set of priorities identified by the school and taking into consideration the projected number of children, cost per head and a breakdown of transportation costs, entry fees, discounts, teacher costs etc. The school aims to provide every year group throughout the school with a range of educational experiences and opportunities to help in achieving the school aims.

5. Remissions

There will be no remissions at St Margaret Marys because **all** contributions will be used to help provide a wide range of activities and resources for all the children throughout the year. If insufficient funds are available for a specific planned activity then it will be changed, postponed or cancelled accordingly. This decision will be made by the headteacher.

Wherever possible school budget will assist in subsidising the costs of these activities in order to ensure that they are affordable for all parents and that they will take place.

6. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by governors in conjunction with current DFE guidance.