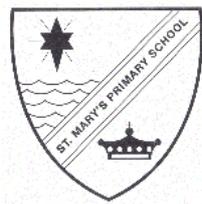


St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Charging Policy

Date Written:	June 2009
Date Reviewed and Ratified:	15 th October 2015
Review Frequency:	3 Yearly
Date to be Reviewed:	Autumn 2018

MISSION STATEMENT

The family of St. Mary's Catholic Primary School believes that each person is unique and made in the image and likeness of God as expressed through Jesus Christ in the Gospels. We believe that our mission is to recognise, nurture and develop the God given gifts, talents and spirituality of each individual.

Aims

- ◆ To inspire children to appreciate, develop and practice spiritual, moral, cultural and aesthetic values.
- ◆ To foster in children a sense of awe and wonder for God's created world and to have an awareness of their unique place in it
- ◆ To appreciate childhood as valued and right for all pupils
- ◆ To provide an environment which creates and fosters loving, responsible and creative human beings.
- ◆ To enable each individual child to achieve their full potential
- ◆ To base our school's curriculum on direct and practical experiences which harness children's natural curiosity.
- ◆ To provide a curriculum which fosters active learning, autonomy and choice.
- ◆ To encourage and nurture independence in children which enables them to become life long learners.
- ◆ To value and promote thinking and communication skills as a foundation for all learning.
- ◆ To provide a safe, secure, structured learning environment.
- ◆ To expect and develop the highest standards of self-discipline and positive behaviour from all members of the school community.
- ◆ To provide children with a positive self-image which develops respect and co-operation with others.
- ◆ To promote challenging and equal opportunities for all children within a positive and ordered environment.
- ◆ To encourage parents and members of the wider community to enhance our children's education.

BASIC PRINCIPLES

No charge can be made for education during school hours. The definition of 'education' includes materials, equipment and transport provided in school hours by the Local Authority or the school to carry pupils between the school and the activity. 'School hours' are those when the school is actually in session, and do not include the break in the middle of the day.

School trips, visits and practical activities enhance the pupils' learning and broaden their knowledge and experience. These are undertaken with the voluntary contributions of parents. No pupil will be excluded from an activity because his or her parents cannot or will not make a voluntary contribution. The opportunity to pay in instalments will be offered to parents who wish to pay in this way.

In case of financial difficulty parents should contact the Bursar..

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT TUITION

There is an exception to the rule about not charging for activities in school hours. Charges may be made for teaching either an individual pupil, or pupils in groups of up to four, to play a musical instrument if the teaching is not part of either the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil. The charge for music lessons will be as set by the Local Authority. There will be no refunds for missed lessons.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Parents may be invited to make voluntary contributions to extend the value of school funds. If a particular activity cannot take place without some help from parents, this will be explained at the planning stage. If a planned activity has to be cancelled any monies received will be returned. Parents will be asked to make voluntary contributions to school trips, visits or for practical activities such as technology. These contributions will not exceed the actual cost. Where an outside provider is used for out of school activities a voluntary contribution will be sought.

RESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES

No charge is made for a residential activity taking place largely during school time where this charge is for education or for the cost of travel. Charges are made to cover board and lodging.

Children of parents receiving

- (a) Income Support,
- (b) Income-based Jobseekers Allowance,
- (c) Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999,
- (d) Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual income assessed by HMRC that does not exceed the income threshold which forms part of the 'Tax Credit' free school meal eligibility category, or
- (e) Income-Related Employment and Support allowance

have the right to claim free board and lodging.

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, in accordance with the Extended Schools Policy, endeavours to provide a range of clubs/activities to enhance children's experiences. These clubs may incur a small charge for materials, etc., but will not be run as profit-making. However, clubs may also be operated by external providers which may be profit-making concerns.

BREAKAGES

In cases of wilful or malicious damage to equipment or breakages, or loss of school books on loan to children, the Headteacher in consultation with the Chair of the Governing Body may decide it right to make a charge. Each incident will be dealt with on its own merit and at their discretion.

Policy ratified by the Governing Body:

Signed:


Chair of Governors

Date: 12th October 2012