

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Charging Policy

MISSION STATEMENT:

Learning Together

Loving God

Becoming the best I can

The Education Reform Act gives schools the discretion to charge for optional extras provided wholly or mainly out of school hours and to invite voluntary contributions

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

Voluntary Contributions

When organising trips or visits, which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. 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. We allow the children to participate fully in the visit or activity.

Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. This information is available on request.

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, we make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging, travel expenses and any specialist educational tuition. The cost of the visit is clearly set out for parents, providing adequate notice in order for parents to pay in instalments, if they wish.

Letters to parents clearly state that personal circumstances will be treated sympathetically and confidentially by the Head Teacher. No child will be excluded or withdrawn from any activity within the curriculum due to lack of finance.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

Swimming

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.

Football

The school offers additional football clubs after school. A qualified FA coach, who is not a member of the school staff, runs and organizes these sessions. We do not make a charge for this club. Attendance is voluntary.

Milk

Milk is provided free of charge for children in the Nursery and Reception Class. Whilst in Key Stage 1 children have the opportunity to purchase milk daily if required from the school canteen.

School Dinners

In line with government policy, pupils in Reception, Years 1 and 2 receive a free school meal. Parents in other year groups may apply to Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council for consideration for free school meals and those eligible are treated with respect and confidentiality.

Breakfast and After School Club

The Breakfast and After School Clubs are now run by the Governing Body. Parents who wish their child to attend pay a daily fee as agreed by the Committee/Governing Body. The clubs are funded and sustained through the fees collected. Fees are used to finance insurance, staffing, resources and development.

Breakages

Parents can be asked to pay for the cost of replacing damaged property belonging to St. Peter's school, e.g. broken windows or damaged books, where the damage was caused as a result of the pupils' behaviour.

Requests for information to comply with the Freedom of Information Act will be charged at an hourly rate of £5 with a minimum charge of 1 hour.