

## **Policy: Charging for school trips and activities**

### **1. Introduction**

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual or group music tuition.

### **2. Voluntary contributions**

When organising school 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.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. The school pays for coach travel from delegated budget to support those families who are unable to contribute. This funding comes from pupil premium funding. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums, centres of worship etc;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre or theatre groups visiting school
- school trips;
- musical events.

### **3. Residential visits**

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board, lodging and travel

expenses. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to write in confidence to the headteacher.

#### **4. Music tuition**

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

There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons.

If parents are experiencing financial difficulty, they are invited to write in confidence to the headteacher. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

#### **5. 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. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

Reviewed June 08

Reviewed Oct 09

Shared with Govs Oct 09

Shared with Govs Nov 10

Shared with Govs finance committee May 13

## **Example of letter to parents**

September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Brass Tuition**

On .....Mr .....will be coming into school to begin Brass Lessons. Your child will need to bring their instrument into school along with any books that they were using last year. It would be helpful if you could also encourage your child to have a practise before their lesson so they can make the most of the first lesson of the year!

We are asking parents to help us to meet the rising costs by making a small contribution of £10 a term, which works out at approximately £1 per lesson. Of course, St Peter's will continue to meet the majority of the costs. Learning to play a musical instrument is a superb opportunity and we do hope that you will support the school in offering musical tuition to your children.

Please do contact Mrs.Williams if you have any issues arising.

Yours sincerely