

# Charging and Remissions Policy



## St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Mission Statement:

*To love, serve and learn as Jesus shows us*

### DOCUMENT STATUS

<u>Adopted by Governors:</u>	<u>Last reviewed:</u>	<u>Next review:</u>
February 2016	February 2023	February 2024

# CHARGES AND REMISSIONS POLICY

**This policy and procedure is subject to The Equality Act 2010 which recognises the following categories of individual as Protected Characteristics: Age, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion and Belief, Sex (gender), Sexual orientation and Disability.**

## **Introduction**

This charging policy has been compiled in line with DFE requirements and in accordance with s457 of the Education Act, 1996.

## **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.

## **Voluntary Contributions**

There is an exception to the rule about not charging for activities in school hours. 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. Contributions will not exceed the actual cost.

Examples where parents may be asked for a voluntary contribution include:

- Swimming
- School Trips
- Enrichment activities e.g. external drama group

## **Breakfast Club and After School Club**

The School does not run breakfast and afterschool clubs, these are organised through an external provider who let a space within the school.

## **Ancillary Services**

The School may offer additional non educational services and the scale of charges will be approved by the Governing Body on an annual basis. If the service is a one-off, the Head Teacher or Chair of the Governing Body, in consultation with the Finance Link Governor, may approve the charge.

## **Lettings**

The school will make its facilities available to outside users at a charge of at least the cost of providing the facilities. The scale of charges will be approved annually by the Governing Body.

**Remissions Policy**

If the parent /carer of a pupil is in receipt of Free School Meals/Pupil Premium the Head Teacher, School Office Manager or Governing Body may choose to levy charges in respect of a particular activity, if it feels it is reasonable in the circumstances i.e. included in one of the above categories. This does not apply in the case of pupils in receipt of the Government's Universal Free School Meals not in receipt of Pupil Premium.

**Extra Curricular Activities run by External Providers**

External providers will set and collect their own charges.

**Other charges**

The Head Teacher, School Office Manager or Governing Body may levy charges for miscellaneous services up to the cost of providing such services e.g. photocopying.

**Breakages & Damages**

In cases of wilful or malicious damage to equipment or breakages, or loss of school books on loan to children, the Head Teacher or School Office Manager 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.

The Head Teacher, School Office Manager or Governing Body may remit in full or part charges in respect of a pupil, if it feels it is reasonable in the circumstances.

**Exceptions**

The Head Teacher, School Office Manager or Governing Body may decide not to levy charges in respect of a particular activity, if it feels it is reasonable in the circumstances.