Great Crosby Catholic Primary School
'...that they may have life and have it to the full.'

Charging Policy

Date of issue:	**November 2021**
Review date:	**November 2022**

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1 Introduction

1.1 Our school aims to have robust, clear processes in place for charging and remissions, and to clearly set out the types of activity that can be charged for and when charges will be made.

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

1.3 This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on charging for school activities and the Education Act 1996, sections 449-462 of which set out the law on charging for school activities in maintained schools in England.

2 Voluntary contributions

2.1 When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. 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.

2.2 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. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

2.3 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, art galleries , places of interest
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to or by a theatre company;
- visiting speakers to the school e.g. science workshops
- musical events
- costs to cover ingredients.

3 Residential visits

3.1 If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum. Guidance in points 2.1 and 2.2 above apply. If the residential visit is mainly out of school time i.e. holidays or weekends Governors reserve the right to withdraw a place from a child who is unable to make part or whole payment. Governors will consider each such case individually.

4 Music tuition

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

4.2 There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. Information about charges for tuition and instruments is given to parents before children embark on a programme. Children are required to purchase their own instruments and assistance is available through Sefton Music Service. In special circumstances the school may help with the purchase of instruments.

5 Swimming

5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for some children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We therefore make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place.

6 Materials

6.1 In some circumstances parents may asked to contribute towards the cost of materials for a particular activity e.g. food

7 After school clubs provided by outside organisations

7.1.1 The school offers a range of additional coaching before and after school. Where a qualified coach, who is not a member of the school staff, runs and organises these sessions there may be a charge. Other sessions led by staff or partner high school will be offered to pupils free of charge.

8. Remissions

In some circumstances the school may not charge for items or activities set out in this policy. This will be at the discretion of the headteacher and will depend on the activity in question.

The following are some of the factors which would be considered:

- Universal credit and have a net household income of less than £7400 per annum
- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided that Working Tax Credit is not also received and the family's income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) does not exceed £16,190
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- An income related employment and support allowance that was introduced on 27 October 2008
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Parents who can prove they are in receipt of the benefits above will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging for residential visits

9. Monitoring and review

This policy is monitored by the governing board, and will be reviewed annually, or earlier if necessary.

Signed:

Chair of Governors……A Davies……Date…28.11.21…….

Headteacher……P. Speed ……...Date…28.11.21…….

Next Review Date of Policy – November 2022