

At St Michael's we strive to develop and inspire **courageous, respectful** and resilient learners encouraging them **serve** with **kindness, respect** and tolerance guided by our Christian values so that they can flourish, living 'life in all its fullness'. (John 10:10)

### Introduction

All the education we provide at St Michael's First School is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National curriculum, with exception of residential visits.

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charging-for-school-activities> (May 2018) and the Education Act 1996, sections 449-462 of which set out the law on charging for school activities in maintained schools in England.

### Free School Meal Entitlement (not Universal Free School Meals)

Where a child is eligible for Free school Meals, school will consider using a small proportion of the allocated funding to support with wider expenses incurred by the parents so that all pupils have equal opportunity to build cultural capital. Example of such costs include:

- A proportion of the cost of school visits and residential
- Extra-curricular activity managed by St Michael's First School (e.g. sports or music).

### Early Year Pupil Premium

Where a Nursery child is eligible for EYPP, school will assess individual need on entry, or from the point that funding is allocated. EYPP will then be allocated based on need. It may be that additional hours are funded or, where a specific need is identified, intervention or resource support is purchased.

### Voluntary Contributions

When organising School trips, visits or visitors 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 or visit. If a trip or visit 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 visit, but is unwilling to or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or visit. Sometimes the School pays the additional costs in order to support the trip or visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded, and 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/places of interest
- Sporting activities which require travelling expenses
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to or by a theatre company
- Musical events

### **Parent Pay**

St Michael's CE (A) First school, Nursery and Out of School Club is 'Cash Free'. All parents will be required to pay for lunches, visits or other expenses via Parent Pay. Parents will be given personal log on details when their child starts the school. Due to administration charges by Parent Pay, St Michael's CE (A) First school, Nursery and Out of School Club cannot refund balances of £4.50 or less when a child leaves the school at Year 4 or earlier. Children who have younger siblings are able to transfer their balance; this should be done by contacting the office.

### **Residential Visits**

St Michael's School organises a residential visit for Year 4 annually in School time. Not only does the activity fulfil a proportion of curriculum expectation, it also provides a wealth of Personal and social development opportunities. We do make a charge to cover the cost incurred by the school. Parents who receive free school meals are charged at a reduced rate.

### **Music Tuition**

All children at St Michael's First School study music as part of the normal School curriculum. We do not charge for this.

There is an additional 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 independent music tutors.

Independent music tutors will invoice parents directly. Parents will be asked to sign agreement agreeing to give a half terms notice should their child wish to stop lessons.

### **Swimming**

All children at St Michael's First School access swimming for one term in Year 3 and 4. We do not charge for either the transport or the lessons.

### **Additional Activities**

St Michael's First School endeavours to offer a range of additional activities during lunchtime or after school. Where the activity is provided by an outside organisation a charge is made for the sessions

**This policy was adopted by the Governing Body on 18.3.21 and is due for review in March 2024.**

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair of Governors)**