

# St Michael's CE (A) First School

## Policy on Charging Parents

### **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.

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

Where a child is eligible for Free school Meals, parents can apply in writing to the governors of St Michael's First School to use Pupil Premium funding to fund:

- Milk at morning break

- 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).

However, each application will be considered individually as the primary purpose of Pupil Premium is to improve achievement in core curriculum subjects covered during lesson times.

Funding will continue for a further 6 months after a child has ceased being eligible for FSM.

### **Early Year Pupil Premium**

Where a Nursery child is eligible for EYPP the school will consult with parents to identify the best outcomes for the child in their care.

Where it is considered beneficial for a child to stay all day to promote the child's oral language and/or their Self-regulation, the EYPP may be used to fund the lunchtime Nursery session.

### **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

- 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 yearly in School time, which is to provide education directly linked to the National Curriculum. We do make a charge to cover the cost incurred by the school from the Staffordshire Outdoor Education Centre. 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.

St Michael's First School believes in equal opportunities for all so parents of children in receipt of free school meals are asked apply to the governors to request funding from Pupil Premium (see section on Free School Meals). Parents who find paying the charge difficult can apply to the governors for assistance.

### **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 (FSM see section above).

### **Monitoring and Review**

This policy is monitored by the governing body, and will be reviewed yearly.