



# BISHOP PERRIN Church of England Primary School

## Charging and Remissions Policy

*Our school is a Church of England School and works in partnership with our two local parish churches, St Augustine's and St Philip and St James'. We aim to reflect the values, traditions and beliefs of the Christian Faith and therefore our Spiritual Values underpin everything that we do.*

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

### 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. However, if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, all children who have permission participate fully.

Any charge made in respect of individual pupils will not exceed the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally between the number of pupils participating.

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 still allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit or events may be supported by the School Association.

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 and other places of educational interest;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre and musical events;
- workshops/visitors/events in school.

### Residential Visits

Children in Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to take part in a residential visit, for which there is a charge that covers transport, accommodation, food, insurance and specialist teaching, such as outdoor and adventurous activities provision.

The school will allocate an amount of money for hardship cases for school journeys each year. Where parents are eligible and wish to be considered as a case for hardship, they must write to the school advising them of how much of the cost of the school journey they will be able to meet. The deadline for this is in line with the published deadline for payment of the deposit.

In order to be considered as a case for hardship, parents must be able to submit proof that they are in receipt of the following benefit:

- Free School Meals

Initial deposits, without applications for hardship, will be seen as a commitment to pay the outstanding balance for the school journey. If a family's circumstances change considerably in the interim period then they should advise the school immediately and consider submitting a hardship application.

Non-payment following the deposits without qualification for hardship will mean that deposits and payments may not be returned and the place will be lost.

If there is insufficient money to cover the overall shortfall of the cost of a residential visit, then a decision will be made as to whether the school journey is viable.

### **Music Tuition**

All children study Music as part of the normal school curriculum. This is free of charge.

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. They make a charge for these lessons. Parents whose children are eligible for Free School Meals may be exempt from payment. Information about music tuition is available from the school office.

### **Swimming**

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Years 2-5 and top-up sessions for Year 6 children (if they have not met the National Curriculum requirement of being able to swim 25m by the end of KS2). These take place in school time. The school pays for swimming tuition and pool hire. Parents are asked to pay for the cost of transporting the children to and from the pool. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place and when payment is due.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

The school sometimes offers additional coaching after school. Qualified coaches, who are not members of the school staff, run and organise these sessions. They may make a small charge for these sessions. Pupils are only able to attend if the costs of the activity are met.

### **Freedom of Information Requests**

Where requested, documents related to the cost of a school trips and residential trips are available from the school on request. These documents can be viewed on the school premises, for which there is no charge. If a copy of the document is required to be taken from the school premises and kept, this may incur an administration charge.

### **Pupil Premium**

The school allocates some of its Pupil Premium funding each year to provide financial assistance for those children who are eligible towards the costs of school visits, swimming transport, and extra-curricular activities. etc.

### **Monitoring**

This policy is reviewed by the Business and Finance Committee in line with the Policy Review Schedule. It can be updated outside of this cycle if there is a change in practice or legislation.