

# **St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School**

## **Charging Policy**

**Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another**

- ♦ St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School aims to be a positive force within the Catholic Church inspired by the life of Christ in the Gospel.
- ♦ The school is committed to the widest and fullest education with ambition for all pupils in a partnership between home, school, parish and community.
- ♦ The school aims to create a happy, ordered environment where all members feel secure and valued.



### **Charging Policy**

<b>Current date approved:</b>	<b>September 2025</b>
<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Full Governing body</b>
<b>Date of Next review:</b>	<b>September 2026</b>

## Aims of the Policy

The Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, practical activities, trips and residential experiences can make towards pupils' personal and social education. The Governing Body aims to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils of the school and as additional optional activities.

## 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. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may have to cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution as long as parental consent is given. We do not treat these children differently from any others. We allow the children to participate fully in the visit or activity.

Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. This can be funded from School Fund or via the PTA subsidy as discussed at PTA meetings. Children entitled to pupil premium funding may have trips subsidised through the funding scheme. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. This information is available on request.

The basis for calculating charges will be proportionate for each participating pupil for travel, board, lodging, materials, equipment, entrance fees and insurance. The following is a list of additional activities organised by school which may require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive: sporting activities which require transport expenses, outdoor adventure activities, visits to the theatre, musical events.

## Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, we make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging, travel expenses and any specialist educational tuition. The cost of the visit is clearly set out for parents, providing adequate notice in order for parents to pay in instalments, if they wish. Letters to parents clearly state that personal circumstances will be treated sympathetically and confidentially by the Headteacher. No child will be excluded or withdrawn from any activity within or outside the curriculum due to lack of finance; however, if we do not receive sufficient contributions, the activity may be cancelled.

## Music tuition

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

The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons weekly. Lessons are charged externally by the individual music teachers.

The school has a small stock of instruments which are loaned free of charge to pupils. Instruments can also be purchased through the Music Support Service.

All instruments issued to children are checked by the peripatetic music teachers to ensure they are in good condition and good working order. Any subsequent repairs or maintenance costs may be charged to the parent of the pupil. If the instrument is damaged in such a way that it requires replacement the parent/s of the pupil will be charged the replacement cost.

Parents will be charged music examination fees if they wish their child to sit music examinations. This is organised by the peripatetic music teachers.

## Swimming

When the school organises swimming lessons, these take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity.

## Clubs

The school offers additional clubs after school. Where a qualified coach, who is not a member of the school staff, runs and organises these sessions; we may make a charge for these clubs.

Where a member of the school staff, runs and organises these sessions, supported by a parent where appropriate, we do not make a charge for these clubs, but may charge for or require a supply of ingredients or equipment or a payment towards the purchase of these.

### School Fund

We have a voluntary school fund to which contributions are requested termly or annually. These requests are for parents to give what they can afford, with availability on the School Gateway keeping it as a priority heading the whole year. This fund is used to support and enhance the curriculum by subsidising activities in school, visits and to provide extras for children which cannot be planned for.

An EYFS tuck fund is requested (currently £40/year) to provide for additional expendable items to be bought in EYFS, to enhance the curriculum.

### Milk

Milk is provided free of charge for children in Nursery and Reception Classes **under 5 years old**. All other children have the opportunity to have milk at break time if their parents sign up for it and pay, via the **Cool Milk** online booking system.

### School Dinners

School meals are available for KS1 via the UFSM national funds. For Nursery and KS2, these are charged at the rate of **£2.40** per meal, with payments required via the School Gateway. Parents may apply to Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council for consideration for free school meals and those eligible are treated with respect and confidentiality.

### Breakfast Club

The Finances and Budget for this club are separate from those of the school budget. Parents who wish their child to attend the club pay in advance. The current charges are £4.50 for the first child and £4.00 for any other siblings. The club is funded and sustained through the fees collected. The club runs from 07:30 a.m. – 08:45 a.m. each day. **We accept government childcare vouchers for this provision.**

### After School Club

The Finances and Budget for this club are separate from those of the school budget. A daily fee is charged depending on the length of care provided. The current charges are £6.00 per child, per session, 3:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m., siblings £5.00 per session. The club is funded and sustained through the fees collected. Fees are used to finance insurance, staffing, resources and development. **We accept government childcare vouchers for this provision.**

### Additional Nursery hours

The Finances and Budget for this activity are separate from those of the school budget. Parents who wish their child to attend 15hrs additional Nursery hours may choose to pay in advance if they are not eligible for 30hrs additional funding via the Government 30hrs entitlement scheme. The current charges are £14.50 per child per session. The additional hours are funded and sustained through the fees collected.

As a school, we offer more than 30 hours of childcare for nursery. We open for 6 ½ hours per day. To supplement the 30-hour funding and to cover the staff costs and ratios at lunchtime for this additional half an hour, we charge **£4 per day, payable in advance via the gateway on a half termly basis. We accept government childcare vouchers for this provision.**

### Breakages and Fines

The Governors reserve the right to ask parents to pay for the cost of replacing any items such as: broken windows, defaced, damaged or lost books, replacement reading diaries or badges, any item damaged as a result of unsatisfactory pupil behaviour.