

Cavendish Church of England Primary School Charging and Remissions Policy



Signed: On behalf of Governing Body	
Signed: Headteacher	
Date:	Autumn 2023
Date to be Reviewed:	Autumn 2024

Our Vision

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do.

Challenge, Creativity, Compassion: Create a pure heart in me – Psalm 51:10

Our School Vision Statement reflects this commitment as children and staff are taught to challenge inequality, prejudice, bullying and harm; to respond with compassion and sensitivity to individual need and to respect the rights of all individuals to be safe and nurtured within God's world.

We encourage children to respond creatively to internal and external challenges in life, with compassion for others, including consideration for creation and the planet itself. Thus we show how to live justly and with a pure heart, reflecting the teachings of Jesus and God's love within our school environment.

1 Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. To support inclusive access for all, the majority of school after school clubs and activities are free of charge at point of service. Peripatetic music lessons are paid directly to the provider. In discussion with families of children in receipt of Pupil Premium this funding may be used to ensure inclusive access.

We recognise the impact financial concerns can have on family life and seek to ensure that additional educational experiences provide good value and directly support curriculum provision. Please do contact the school for a confidential conversation with the headteacher in case of financial concerns. Children's access to activities and enrichment is not based on financial contribution.

2 Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents and carers to contribute to the cost of the visit. All contributions are voluntary but if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a visit. It may be necessary to ask for voluntary contributions the term before the visit is scheduled to see if sufficient contributions have been received to make the visit financially viable. In the event that a proposed visit does not go ahead, any voluntary contributions will be returned to the child's family, minus any non-refundable deposits paid. If a visit goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from others.

If a parent/carer 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 in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Increasingly, however, school budgets do not allow for this subsidy. In recent years the PTFA have been invaluable in meeting a shortage in order that the activity may go ahead. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which may require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- Specialist visits to school by independent providers for INSET days and pupils' workshops
- Visits to museums, art galleries and centres of culture
- Sporting activities which require transport expenses
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to the theatre
- Residential trips
- Musical events

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- Parents/carers maybe asked to contribute towards materials for DT or Food Technology on the understanding that the finished goods/food will be taken home or consumed in school

3 Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education expenses. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board, lodging and travel and any other activities.

4 Refunds for deposits paid

The school may request deposits from parents/carers for school trips or visits. Where a deposit has been paid if a pupil is unable to attend this will generally be non-refundable, other than in the following circumstances;

- the school is able to recover the deposit from the trip or visit provider and there is no overall loss to the school from the trip or visit, if the deposit is returned
- at the discretion of the Head Teacher, in exceptional circumstances where the failure to attend is unavoidable or for understandable reasons

5 Pupil Premium

Parents of children in receipt of pupil premium may have premium funding allocated to visits and voluntary contributions. This may impact on the amount available to support additional small group/individual provision. Individual letters are sent for each visit for parents and carers to express their wishes.

6 Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this except for special arrangements made with visiting tutors or with the County Music School. Children are expected to own an Ocarina in Key Stage 1 and a Recorder in Key Stage 2. These may be purchased from the school or provided independently. Children in receipt of Pupil Premium may use premium funding to provide their instrument.

Covid-19 Addendum

The school is subject to National guidelines regarding education. Adjustments may be required to our enrichment programme, and some activities may not be able to take place in line with our “scale up, scale down” measures to respond appropriately to local infection rates. Any monies paid will be subject to criteria stated above with regards to refunds. Where a visiting specialist or a specialist activities day in school is deemed safer management of risk than an external visit, families may be asked to make a voluntary donation towards the cost of on-site enrichment provision.