

St Therese of Lisieux Primary School



Charges and Remissions Policy

Mission Statement

As a thriving Catholic school, rooted in Christ's ministry and message, we offer a child-centred, ambitious, inclusive and holistic education; we work in partnership, in a nurturing and supportive atmosphere, building a flourishing and diverse community of care, love and aspiration.

Nurture Support Grow

Rationale

The Education Reform (N.I.) Order 1989 sets out the circumstances in which charges can and cannot be levied on parents in respect of the education provided for registered pupils in Northern Ireland.

The Board of Governors supports the right to free education during school hours for the pupils of St Therese of Lisieux PS.

The Governors recognise the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, trips and residential experiences can make towards the pupils' personal and social education. We therefore aim to promote and provide such activities as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils of the school and as optional activities.

Key Principles

- Educational activities that take place wholly or mainly during normal teaching time will be available to all pupils regardless of parents' ability or willingness to pay.
- The Board of Governors may invite voluntary contributions for activities that take place during school hours and pupils will not be treated differently according to whether a contribution is made.

Permitted Charges

Charges may be made for the following with parental agreement and willingness to pay recorded before provision

- Optional educational visits including residential trips and transport on such trips
- Individual/small group musical instrument tuition that is not required by the curriculum and associated music exams
- Before or after school activities including Breakfast Club and 123 Club
- Materials or ingredients for items that pupils will keep, such as craft/cookery items
- The cost of lost, damaged or destroyed property due to wilful or malicious behaviour
- Services provided by third parties, including external providers of after-schools activities

Any optional extra charges will not exceed the full per-pupil cost and may include travel, materials, entrance fees, insurance, non-teaching staff costs, and teaching provided under a separate contract. The Board of Governors may decide to charge the full cost, a reduced amount.

Remissions

There may be cases of family hardship which make it difficult for the families to take part in particular activities for which a charge is made. Parents may apply, in confidence, for the remission of charges in part or in full. Requests for remission may be made confidentially to the Principal, who will consult the Chair of Governors.

Voluntary Contributions

The school may request voluntary contributions for activities in or out of school time for which compulsory charges cannot be levied but which can only be provided if there is sufficient voluntary funding, whilst ensuring that no pupil is excluded from such activity by reason of inability or unwillingness to make a voluntary contribution. Should the voluntary contributions not cover the costs of the activity, the Governors reserve the right to cancel the activity.

Where contributions are deemed voluntary, the voluntary nature of contributions is highlighted on correspondence that requests them. Pupils at the school will not be treated

differently according to whether or not their parents have made any voluntary contributions.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every three year or sooner if there are changes in legislation or DE guidance.