

Westhead Lathom St. James
C.E. Primary School



“Christian values are implicit in all that we do”

Charging and Remissions Policy

Last Reviewed Date: Winter 2016
Next Review Date: Winter 2019

Issue No.	Date		Revision Notes
1	November 2016	Alison Albion	Original Policy documents copied into new format, with header, footer and version control and then personalised by Alison Albion

Signed..... Chair of Governors

Date.....

Mission Statement: Our School Now

Our school provides a secure, caring, stimulating and challenging indoor and outdoor environment that promotes a love of learning. Our children, parents, families, staff, governors and community work together to enable each child to become a happy, healthy, well-balanced individual in preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The ethos of the school is based on the Christian ideals of commitment, responsibility and respect and love for Jesus Christ, self and others. We are committed to working in partnership with all of those involved in our children's development to lead our children towards tolerance, understanding, justice, and sensitivity to the needs of others and appreciation of the world around them.

Our motto "Enjoy, Respect, Learn, Achieve"

Vision Statement: Our Vision for the Future

To provide role models who: go the extra mile; give of themselves and their time to meet the needs of the whole child; promote spirituality and an appreciation of the wonders of the natural world; promote a love of learning; develop Christian ideals of commitment, responsibility, respect, team-work, tolerance, understanding, justice, sensitivity of self and others and love for Jesus Christ, within a secure, caring, inspiring, stimulating and challenging environment both indoors and outside.

For children, parents, families, staff, governors and community to work together in partnership to enable each child to become a happy, healthy, well-balanced individuals with self-confidence and belief that builds character to enable them to engage thoroughly, fulfilling each individual's potential through life's experiences, opportunities and responsibilities in a rapidly changing world.

Aims:

Westhead Lathom St. James Church of England Primary School aims to :-

- Provide a broad and challenging curriculum and a stimulating learning environment that extends outside the classroom;
- Develop enquiring minds and spirituality through curiosity, awe and wonder of the world;
- Teach, demonstrate and praise Christian Values;
- Value the power of prayer;
- Teach with innovative and investigative approaches to learning;
- Provide an enriching programme of extra-curricular activities and visits;
- Plan a rich, varied and up-to-date range of learning resources;
- Encourage children to achieve their highest standards in all areas of the curriculum and to seek excellence within an ethos of support, challenge and encouragement to succeed;
- Teach children to work independently, collaboratively and become highly motivated lifelong learners;
- Include opportunities for creative thinking in problem solving settings, developing divergent thinking, adaptability and flexibility in preparation for the many changes ahead in life, including the rapid progress in technology;
- Build partnerships between the school, home and community;
- Strive for continuous improvement in all that we do;
- Continually self-evaluate and continue to improve upon current practice;
- Work collaboratively towards common goals;
- Place self-esteem and a positive and inclusive approach to behaviour as high priorities thus ensuring that individuals respect and value themselves, others and the environment and is motivated to do their best in school and beyond in order to become a fulfilled adult who gives to the community.

Education Reform Act changes

The Education Reform Act (1988) introduced new provisions on charging for school activities. The purposes of these provisions are:

- to maintain the right to a free school education.
- to ensure that activities offered as part of the National Curriculum and wholly within normal school time should be available to all pupils, regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
- to give educational authorities and schools the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours.
- to confirm that schools may invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of any activity organised by the school, either in or outside school hours.

The Governors believe that activities such as swimming and educational visits (or visitors) are an extension to, and an enrichment of the curriculum. They have adopted the LA Policy of Charging for School Activities, which allows the school to ask for voluntary contributions from parents to support these activities. The policy is reviewed annually.

Introduction

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

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 cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid the full 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 event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request. In the case of Residential trips when school has to make a commitment in advance, any deposit received from the parents will be non-refundable.

Additional activities

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 transport expenses

outdoor adventure activities

visits to the theatre

school trips

musical events

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 make a charge to cover the costs of any workshops, board, lodging and travel expenses. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to speak in confidence to the Headteacher.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. There is a charge for individual music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children from Year 3 to Year 6. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for the swimming lessons or the transport to the swimming baths.

Lettings charges

The Office Manager is responsible for raising invoices for lettings on a monthly basis. See current lettings policy.