

Stoke Bishop Church of England Primary School



Charging for School Activities and Remission



'Believing it's Possible'

Our community sits between two rivers that have historically supported growth and success. Working together with trust and passion, we learn, grow and thrive as we embrace the possibilities of life's journey: Understanding that, "Wherever the river flows, life will flourish" – Ezekiel 47:9

Reviewed by:	Finance Committee	Date: 22 June 2021
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Next review due by:	June 2022
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1. **Rationale**

To ensure a clear, consistent and legal approach to charging for school activities and visits.

2. **Introduction**

The law states that all education provided during school hours, with the exception of music lessons must be free.

3. **Objectives**

To ensure that the school's practices for charging for school activities are compliant with the law (currently the Education Act 1996).

4. **Procedures**

The school will charge for:

1. Items taken home

The school will ask parents for a contribution towards the costs of any items where the child's parent wishes him/her to own them. The charge to parents will not exceed the actual cost of the additional resources divided by the total number of pupils making the item.

2. Music tuition

The school will charge parents for music tuition for pupils to play a musical instrument or to sing where these lessons are optional for pupils and not an essential part of the National Curriculum. Lessons may be taught as individuals or groups of an appropriate size (based on sound pedagogical principles). Where music lessons are organised by the school using the Bristol Plays Music service the cost per lesson is derived from the total cost charged by Bristol Plays Music divided by the forecast pupil hours booked.

3. Residential visits

The school will charge for board and lodging on any residential trips. The cost will be the actual costs charged by the residential centre for board and lodging.

Voluntary contributions

The school may ask for voluntary contributions for the following activities:

- Transport to residential visits
- Educational visits
- Any activity which incurs an additional cost eg WOW week workshops
- Swimming lessons (including transport)

If the activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions the parents will be informed of this at the outset. Parents will be informed that there is no obligation to make any contribution. If a parent is unwilling or unable to pay their child will still be given an equal chance to participate. The charge to parents will not exceed the actual cost of the activity eg workshop costs divided by the total number of pupils participating.

Remission

1. Items taken home

If payment is not received the item is not sent home. The teacher may keep the item in school for display purposes or dispose of it.

2. Music tuition

Music lessons will be discontinued for any pupil who does not pay their bill.

3. Residential visits

Information given to parents about forthcoming visits will make it clear that parents who can prove they are in receipt of the following benefits (consistent with those currently used to determine Free School Meal eligibility) will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging:

- Universal Credit (your household income must be less than £7,400 a year, after tax and not including any benefits you get).
- Income support
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child tax credit (provided not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working tax credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Parents will be asked to make an appointment with the Headteacher to discuss what contribution they can make to the cost of the residential visit, which should if possible include a voluntary contribution towards the cost of transport.