

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

CHARGING POLICY



Mission Statement

"St. Mary's School is a safe, inclusive and happy place, where we follow Jesus by living, loving, learning and working together."

School motto

"Being the Best We Can Be."

Core Values

Respect, Nurturing, Creativity, Integrity,
Celebration

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. A charge will be made for individual or group music tuition provided by St Helens Music Service, offered to children in KS2. The charge is based upon the number of children signing up for these sessions, parents will be notified of the cost in advance.

Voluntary Contributions

When school trips or visits are organised to supplement the curriculum and to provide an educational experience for the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. Parents are asked to make a voluntary contribution; however, if sufficient voluntary contributions are not received then a trip may be cancelled. If the trip goes ahead all children will be included irrespective of whether or not they have made a contribution. If appropriate and funds allow, the school or PTFA may pay a proportion of the costs in order to support a visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded and the school will provide this information on request.

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' (the cost of the provision will not exceed the actual charge, i.e. no profit will be made by the school). This list is not exhaustive:

- Visits to museums
- Visits to the theatre
- School trips
- Musical events

School Levy

Each year parents of those children attending Catholic Schools are asked to make a voluntary contribution, currently £10 per family, to the Archdiocesan Schools' Building Fund (The School Levy) which funds building works and major repairs carried out at Catholic Schools.

Pre-school at St Mary's

Families can use 15 or 30 hour funding entitlement to pay for a pre-school place at St Mary's. Additional charges for top up sessions will be made at £15 per 3 hour session. Breakfast and after school (ABC Club) charges are outlined below. A school dinner can be purchased at a cost of £3.10 via the School Grid System.

Lunchtime sessions are priced at £3.50 per session and will be invoiced half-termly and paid via school money.

Residential Visits

Annual residential visits for Y6 children are undertaken and charges made to cover the cost of board and lodgings and transport.

Parents are given the option of a payment plan to spread the cost of residential visits.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum and no charges are made. There is a charge for individual or group music tuition that is not part of the National Curriculum. This service may be provided via an external provider and charges will be set out by them.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons which take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. No charge is made for this activity. Parents are informed when these lessons are to take place. Permission is sought from the parents via the annual Parental Consent Form.

ABC Club

The ABC Club provides Breakfast and After School childcare for the pupils of St Mary's Birchley Catholic Primary School. The ABC Club is administered by the Resources Committee. Charges are made to cover the cost of the provision in relation to staffing costs, provisions etc. Charges are displayed on the school website and in the hall where ABC Club is held. They are also available at the school office.

Charges for the Out of Hours provision are:

Breakfast Club - £4.50

Afterschool Club -

3.30 pm to 4.30 pm - £4.50

4.30 pm to 5.30 pm £7.00.

If a child has not been collected by 5:30pm a late fine of £5.00 will be applied to cover the costs of staff overtime.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

The school may offer additional activities as a before or after school club, which may be provided by an external coach/tutor. A charge will be made for these sessions set out by the provider.

School Staff Led Extra-Curricular Clubs

The school may offer additional activities provided by a staff member as a before or after school club. These are free of charge but sometimes a contribution for resources may be requested.

Hire of School Premises

Where governors agree to the use of the school premises for the provision of sports clubs for the children then the Archdiocesan Hiring Policy is used.

Breakages & Fines

The Governors reserve the right to ask parents to pay for the cost of replacing any item such as:

- broken windows
- any item damaged as a result of unsatisfactory pupil behaviour

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Last updated June 2026