

Through Jesus, We Love, Learn and Grow

**Eccleston St Mary's
Church of England Primary School**



**A Policy Document for
Charging and Remissions**

1 Introduction

- 1.1** 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 or group music tuition.

2 Voluntary Contributions

- 2.1** 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 any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.
- 2.2** 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 for specific reasons, 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.

2.3 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 requiring coach transport;
- musical events.

3 Residential Visits

3.1 The school organises a residential outdoor education visit every year. This is during a school week. The cost of the trip covers travel, board and lodging and instruction by qualified instructors. Parents who receive state benefits may be exempt from some payment. The charge made to parents simply covers the costs – no profit is made from the trip.

4 Music Tuition

4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. Y5 learn to play a woodwind instrument under the tuition of a qualified music teaching specialist from the Lancashire Music Service. No charge is made for this.

4.2 There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. There is a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of state benefits may be exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

4.3 There is also a Brass Club, run in conjunction with Eccleston Brass Band. A nominal fee is charged to cover costs, which goes directly to the Band.

5 Swimming

- 5.1** The school organises swimming lessons for pupils in Year 2,3 and 4. These take place in school time at the pool installed on site and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

6 Football and other clubs

- 6.1** The school offers additional football and other sports activities after school. Some are run by our own staff at no charge to pupils; some are run by a qualified sports coach. A small charge may be made for these sessions.

7 Non – sporting clubs

- 7.1** The school offers a variety of clubs other than sports clubs run by our own staff eg coding, choir, DT. No charge is made for these clubs.
- 7.2** We offer other clubs eg Spanish, run by qualified outside providers. A small charge is made for these clubs.

School Transport / Minibus

- 7.1** We normally charge children if they are transported in a coach / minibus to an extra-curricular activity. However, we use these charges only to cover the expenses of the trip, and not to make a profit.

8. Monitoring and Review

- 8.1** This policy is reviewed by the Governors every three years.

This Review	Autumn 2025
Next Review	Autumn 2028