

POLICY STATEMENT on CHARGING & REMISSIONS
of the Governors of
St.Edmund's Catholic Primary School, Skelmersdale

Introduction

The Governing Body of St.Edmund's School is required, by the Education Reform Act 1988, to establish a charging and remissions policy, in accordance with the DES Circular 2/89 entitled "Education Reform Act 1988, Charges for School Activities".

The Governing Body recognises the contribution made by a range of additional activities including clubs, trips, visits to school by visiting speakers/entertainers and residential experiences, organised by the teachers in order to enhance the children's studies and contribute to their personal and social education.

Guiding Principles

- Every pupil has the right to a free school education.
- Activities offered by the school wholly or mainly during normal school hours are available to all children without charge.
- Parents can be invited to make voluntary contributions and the survival of an activity could depend on such voluntary contributions being made.

Charges

The Governors accept that a compulsory charge on parents can be levied, on their behalf, for certain specified items.

- (1) Individual instrumental music tuition requested by parents, which is outside the National Curriculum or a prescribed public examination syllabus.
- (2) The board & lodging element of residential visits, which will be deemed to take place within school hours.
- (3) Optional extras, such as transport, entry fees, etc., when the activity takes place wholly or mainly outside the normal school hours, provided parents have agreed in advance to the participation of the children.
- (4) Materials or ingredients used in practical lessons when the parents have indicated in advance that they wish to own the finished article. The charge may be in kind.
- (5) The cost of damage caused as a result of a pupil's vandalism or serious carelessness.

Remissions

Where an application to remit (in part or in full) such cases as are detailed above, then the Headteacher will consider such an application and make adjudication. Where necessary the Headteacher will consult the Deputy Headteacher and/or the Chair of Governors. All decisions will be arrived at after giving due consideration to the relevant legislation and spirit of the Education Reform Act.

Nothing in this policy statement precludes the Governing Body from inviting parents to make voluntary contributions towards the cost of providing education for pupils.

The Governing Body may, from time to time, amend this statement and the categories of activity, for which a charge may be made, within the relevant legislation and spirit of the Education Reform Act.