



Crockerton Church of England Primary School

Potters Hill, Crockerton, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 8AB

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Headteacher: Mrs Nic Ilic

VISION STATEMENT

Be joyful. Grow to maturity. Encourage each other. Live in peace and harmony.

2 Corinthians 13:11

Charging & Remissions Policy

This is a single policy which has been written on behalf of the Governing Body for Crockerton Church of England VA Primary School.

Written	October 2024
Reviewed	
Author	Governing Body & Head Teacher
Review Cycle and Approval	Annually Governing Body/Gov/Head Teacher
Next Review	September 2025

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people



Introduction

Sections 449-462 of the Education Act 1996 set out the law on charging for school activities, as well as confirming that schools must ensure that they inform parents on low incomes and in receipt of certain benefits of the support available to them when being asked for voluntary contributions towards the cost of school visits.

The Governing Body of Crockerton School believe that that all our pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities and visits (curricular and extra-curricular) independent of their parents' financial means.

This charging and remissions policy describes how we will do our best to ensure a good range of visits and activities is offered and, at the same time, try to minimise the financial barriers which may appear to prevent some pupils taking full advantage of the opportunities.

Voluntary Contributions

The governing body may ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of:

- any activity which takes place during school hours,
- school equipment (such as materials, books and instruments),
- school funds generally.

The contribution must be genuinely voluntary, and the pupils of parents who are unable or unwilling to contribute will not be discriminated against.

Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and there is no way to make up the shortfall, then it must be cancelled.

Optional activities outside of the school day

We will charge for optional, extra activities provided outside of the school day, for example, football club, theatre visit. Such activities are not part of the National Curriculum or religious education nor are they part of an examination syllabus.

School Visits

There are no funds available within the school to provide for school visits taking place, wholly or mainly in school hours. Parents will be asked for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of such visits. The price indicated will only be sufficient to cover the actual costs incurred. If insufficient voluntary contributions are made, the visit may be cancelled. Charges will also be made for board and lodging for residential visits. If children are absent on the day of the visit, refunds can only be given for entrance fees not charged, and not for coach transport.

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 or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum and has been requested by the pupil's parent. The peripatetic music teachers organise payment for these lessons directly with the parents.

Wrap-Around Care

There is a charge for the extended day care offered by the school. Please see the policy for this.

Residential Visits

Schools cannot charge for:

- Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours;
- Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education; and
- Supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit.

Schools can charge for board and lodging but the charge must not exceed the actual cost.

Deliberate damage to property

Parents are asked to 'make a contribution' towards replacing damaged or lost school property caused wilfully or negligently by their children.

Remissions: In order to remove financial barriers from pupils, the governing body has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can legally be made will be offered at no charge or a reduced charge to parents in particular circumstances. This will be at the discretion of the Governing Body and will depend on the activity and cost, in question.

Payment terms

The governing body recognises its responsibility to ensure that the offer of activities and educational visits does not place an unnecessary burden on family finances. To this end we:

- Will try to establish a system for parents / carers to pay in instalments
- Will try to ensure that if an opportunity for an activity arises at short notice it will be possible for carers / parents to arrange to pay by instalments beyond the date of the activity