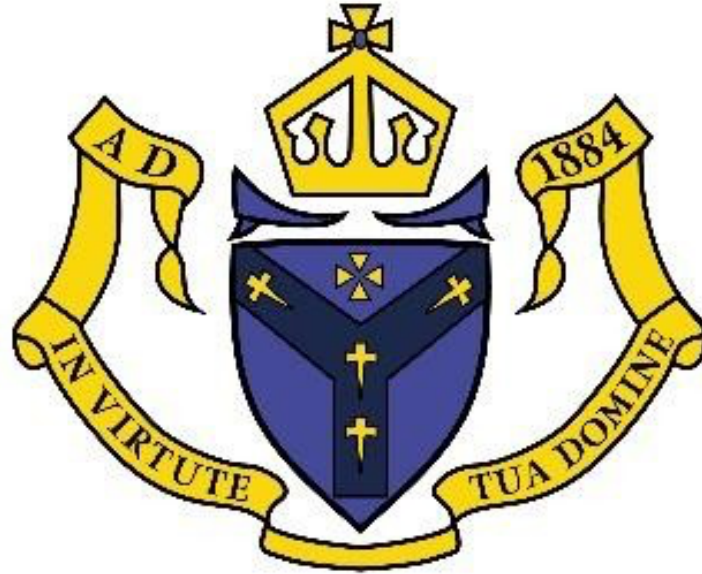


Sissinghurst VA Church of England Primary School

Enjoy, Achieve and Celebrate Together in Faith



The Governors and Staff of Sissinghurst (VA) Church of England Primary School believe the policies and procedures we write help us to continuously improve the school and develop our pupils to become life-long learners and valuable citizens of the future.

Our School Vision

We are a strong 'family', passionate about providing creative and aspirational learning opportunities. We are courageous advocates for the planet, learning to speak out for others' locally, nationally and globally. Rooted in the strength of God, we respect, cherish and nurture the unique abilities of each member of our community.

We are dedicated to providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. Our Christian values of:

Kindness Forgiveness Courage Service

Policy Title:	Charging Policy
Date:	September 2022
Review Date:	September 2024
Reviewed By:	FGB
Approved By:	FGB

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

1.0. Voluntary contributions

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 visit. If a visit goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school visit or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the visit or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each visit is funded. The school provides 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'. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums
- sporting activities which require transport expenses.
- outdoor adventure activities.
- residential visits.
- school visits to places of interest e.g., wildlife parks, sea-life centres etc
- musical or theatrical events.
- the cost of materials or ingredients for cooking or design technology where parents have indicated in advance that they wish to own the finished product.
- some after school clubs where consumables are used, e.g., art club.

Additional information is provided in the following sections of this Policy about optional extras.

2.0. Residential visits

If the school organises an optional residential visit in school time or mainly school time, we do make a charge to cover the travel expenses, board and lodging and some activities. Education will be provided at school during school hours for any children who do not join the optional residential visit.

Parents who can prove they are in receipt of certain benefits are exempt from paying charges for board and lodging for optional residential visits but may still make a voluntary contribution. Parents must contact the school office for more information if they think this may apply to them.

3.0. Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

We give parents information about additional optional music tuition at the start of each academic year. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. A charge is made for these lessons. There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum.

4.0. Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in KS2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We calculate the cost of using additional swimming coaches and transport to these sessions. 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 and invite parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of these sessions. Parents who can prove they are in receipt of certain benefits are exempt from paying charges for swimming lessons for children in KS2.

5.0. Sports coaching

The school may offer additional sports coaching after school. If a qualified coach, who is not a member of the school staff, runs and organises these sessions. Sports Funding money may be used to cover this expense or we may make a small charge for these optional sessions.

6.0. Transport to extra-curricular activities

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

7.0. Lost or damaged reading/library books

A charge of £5 is usually made for lost or damaged books from the core reading scheme.

The school reserves the right to charge for any damage and breakages.