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Charging for School Activities Policy

Policy Reference:	C1
Responsibility:	Finance and Buildings Committee
Reviewed by:	Mrs Anne Mulholland
Consultees:	
This Review:	September 2018
Next Review Due:	September 2021
Cycle:	Three Yearly
Ratified by Full Governing Body on:	
Signed:	
Gerard Owens	Chair of Governors

With Christ as our guide and example we celebrate the uniqueness of the individual.

Together we will try to:

Learn from Jesus;

Love like Jesus;

Live like Jesus.

It is the Governors' policy to offer children the opportunities to undertake extra curricular activities and they will seek voluntary contributions from parents to help finance these activities.

Trips and other activities

We recognise the valuable contribution which visits away from school or visitors to the school can make towards enhancing and enabling the school curriculum. They offer first hand, relevant experience to the children in a particular situation. At St. Patrick's such visits will only be viable with the support and **voluntary contribution** of parents of all children in the group concerned. The Governors may ask parents for voluntary contributions towards the costs of some educational visits/activities which take place mainly within school hours but no child will be prohibited from taking part in a school activity for financial reasons. Requests for help from parents on income support or family credit will be considered and assistance may be provided within the limits of the school's budget. Complete confidentiality will be observed in all such matters.

The school may have to cancel some activities if the level of voluntary contributions fails to meet budgetary requirements.

There may be other occasions of family hardship when charges may also be remitted at the Governor's discretion. Parents seeking remission should contact the Head of School.

Children receiving free school meals are entitled to a packed lunch for a school trip.

Music and vocal tuition

Parents will be charged for instrumental and vocal tuition which takes place during the school day.

Charges are set by the governing body and are reviewed annually in the summer term.

No charge will be made for instrumental and vocal tuition for looked after children.

The school takes early action to try to avoid parents getting into debt for charged activities (like music lessons and some trips) which are enrichment activities and not part of the main curriculum. The school will adhere to the debt recovery procedure as defined by the Local Authority and may seek the aid of Education Financial Services and Legal Services in recovering debt.