



# The Learning Academy Trust

## The Bishops' C of E Learning Academy

### Charging Policy

#### 1 Introduction

1.1 All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. However, we may charge for some additional extra activities such as individual or small group music tuition.

#### 2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 The aims of this policy will:

set out what the Academy will not charge for, what it will make a charge for or request a voluntary contribution from parents/carers;

clarify how charges will be determined, so parents and carers understand why requests for payment are sometimes made for some activities.

#### 3 Voluntary contributions

3.1 When organising Academy trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the Academy invites parents and carers to contribute to the cost. 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 or carers have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

3.2 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, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the Academy pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents and carers have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the Academy provides this information on request.

3.3 The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the Academy, which require voluntary contributions from parents and carers. These activities are known as "optional extras". This list is not exhaustive:

visits to museums;

fieldtrips and research visits;

sporting activities which require transport expenses;

outdoor adventure activities;

visits to or by a theatre company;

musical events.

#### **4 Residential visits**

4.1 If the Academy organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education or travel expenses. However, we do suggest a voluntary contribution to cover the costs of board and lodging, although parents and carers who receive state benefits are exempt from this charge. If we are unable to raise sufficient funding through these voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways. Primary School Policies 7<sup>th</sup> Edition/ 2

#### **5 Music tuition**

5.1 There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers for a specified fee directed by the Music Service. We give parents and carers information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

#### **6 Swimming**

6.1 The Academy organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. The cost of swimming is currently £0 per week, per child. This includes the cost of a highly qualified and experienced swimming instructor (the Academy subsidises the shortfall in the block booking). We inform parents and carers when these lessons are to take place and seek written permission for their children to take part.

#### **7 Minibus (if appropriate)**

7.1 If children are transported by minibus, say to an extra-curricular activity/sports fixture etc parents are not normally asked to make a contribution. However, if a subsidised charge is made we use these payments only to cover the expenses of the trip, and not to make a profit.

#### **8 Monitoring and review**

8.1 This policy is monitored by the governing body, and will be reviewed every three years or sooner if necessary.