



## Isle of Man Department of Education St Johns School

### Charging Policy

#### 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, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

#### 2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school asks The PTA to cover all costs. In circumstances where the PTA are unable to cover the cost then the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.
- 2.2 If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request.
- 2.3 The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which the PTA pays for or 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;
  - visits to or by a theatre company;
  - school trips abroad;
  - musical events.

#### 3 Residential visits

- 3.1 If the school 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 charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways.

#### 4 Music tuition

- 4.1 All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.
- 4.2 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. The DEC make a charge for these lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

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**5 Swimming**

- 5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity.

**6 Sport**

6.1 The school may offer additional sports coaching after school from time to time by a qualified coach, who is not a member of the school staff and who runs and organises these sessions. There is no charge for these activities.

6.2 The school may be approached by outside organisations (eg judo, fencing, language schools) who want to use the school as a venue in order to offer short term clubs for pupils outside the school day. These providers will hire a space, (sports hall, classroom) from the Dec and may charge parents to allow their child(ren) to attend the club.

**7 Minibus**

- 7.1 We normally do not charge if children are transported in a Department of Education and Children minibus to an extra-curricular activity. The minibus costs are covered by the PTA. However, we use these charges 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 regularly.

Implemented March 2017

Shared with Governors April 2017

Reviewed September 2019