

St. Pius Xth R.C.V.A. Primary School

Educational Visits and Activities Policy



to renew all things in Christ

2018

1 Introduction

1.1 All schools are required to offer children a broad and balanced curriculum that promotes their spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development, and prepares them for the opportunities and experiences of adult life.

1.2 In our school we seek to ensure that the National Curriculum is delivered to all children, regardless of social background, race, gender or differences in ability. All are entitled to the development of knowledge, understanding, skills, and attitudes. To enrich the curriculum for our children, we also offer a range of educational visits and other activities that add to what they learn in school.

2 Organisation

2.1 The National Curriculum defines what we teach the children in school. This is the basis for each class's programme of learning for each school year. In addition teachers and governors agree the corresponding programme of visits and activities in advance of each academic term.

2.2 Within each class's programme of work the teachers plan educational visits and activities that support the children's learning. We give details of these visits and activities to parents at the beginning of each school term in our School Calendar. We plan other activities as the school year progresses, and inform parents of these in due course.

2.3 Visits and activities usually take place within the school day, and the governing body approves all such visits in advance. We follow the LEA's guidelines relating to health and safety, and we ask parents to give written permission for their child to take part in any activity that takes children off the school site. If we do not receive this written permission, the child will be unable to participate.

3 Charging for school activities

3.1 The governing body has a Charging and Remissions policy that details the full range of activities where a charge can be made. A copy of this is available on the school website or from the school office. A voluntary contribution is usually requested for all visits, unless the school has been able to offer the trip through additional funding, such as Pupil Premium. The cost to parents is kept to a minimum by heavily subsidizing trips through school fundraising. No pupil would ever be denied attendance on a trip through non-payment.

4 Curriculum links

4.1 All educational visits and activities support and enrich the work we do in school. There is also a number of people who visit the school to support our work. Some visits relate directly to areas of learning for individual classes, whilst others relate to all our children. We regularly use musicians, drama groups and scientific workshop visitors to enhance the curriculum and to bring new experiences to the children.

4.2 For each subject in the curriculum there is a corresponding programme of activities which includes visits by specialists. All these activities are in line with guidance published by the LEA:

- **English – theatre visits, visits by authors, poets or theatre groups;**

- science – use of the school grounds, visits from other providers e.g. Forensic Workshop, Key Stage 3 teachers and pupils
- mathematics – use of shape and number trails in the local environment; Family learning opportunities
- history – castle visits, study of local housing patterns, local museums;
- geography – use of the locality for fieldwork, village trails; visits to local areas with geographical focus, field trips where appropriate
- art and design –use of the locality; work with local artists
- PE – range of sporting fixtures, extra-curricular activities, visits by specialist coaches; attendance at cross country, multi-skills, tennis, football and rugby inter school events
- music – range of specialist music teaching, extra-curricular activities, concerts for parents to hear;
- design and technology –chocolate making workshops led by other provider, Taylor Shaw and School Nurse fruit tasting/ sandwich making,
- ICT – Family learning visitors
- RE – visits to local centres of worship, visits by local clergy, visits to Emmaus Village (Youth Village at Allensford), attendance at the Youth Festival annually, visits to the Cathedral for St Cuthbert’s Care events, Youth Mission Team celebrations

4.3 We also have regular visits from our neighbourhood police officer and health workers. These visits support the personal, social and health education of our children. Occasionally other faith partners visit school to deliver assemblies. For example, the local Methodist Church / Messy Church

5 Residential activities

5.1 On occasions, Key Stage 2 pupils attend a residential visit. Pupil needs and financial factors are considered where this is done.

5.2 Residential visits enable children to take part in outdoor and adventure activities as part of their PE work. All specialist activities are undertaken with qualified instructors.

5.3 This school liaises with the SVP Camp to offer Summer Residential Courses for Y5/6 girls and boys in holiday time. The school has no responsibility for this but does support SEND pupils by liaising with volunteers prior to the holiday. The local church offers financial support for pupils where there is a financial barrier to them attending.

6 Transport

6.1 Travel by bus or car is in line with Health & Safety arrangements and the charges that we make cover the expenses of the journey only; we do not make any profit from this.

6.2 We only hire those companies whose coaches have individual seat belts. We ensure all children travelling by coach or minibus to wear a seat belt. All coach drivers have a full DBS check before they are able to carry out work for schools. On occasions staff will drive pupils in their own cars but only where they hold the relevant business insurance. Taxis and minibuses are sometimes used for small groups but staff are always with pupils if they travel with taxi companies.

7. Administration

**Risk assessments are carried out and retained for all trips.
An online Educational Visit system is operated in all DCC schools.
Hard copies and contact letters kept in hanging file Educational Visits
Current and Past Folders
LEA guidance brochure in same file.**