St Anthony's Catholic Primary School, Clayton

Educational Visits and Activities Policy

Status: Adopted March 2012

Reviewed : February 2017

Next Review: February 2020

Mission Statement 'Enter to learn, learn to serve'

At St Anthony's, it is our mission to provide a high quality education, in a Gospel centered Catholic community, valuing the dignity of the individual and actively promoting inclusive education for all learners. We will strive for excellence in all we do. At all times the school is to serve as a witness to the Catholic faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 year.

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. We plan 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 Local Authority's guidelines relating to health and safety. The visit leader completes a risk assessment before the visit to ensure all risks have been considered. This is approved by the headteacher prior to the visit taking

place. As part of these procedures 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 All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. There are some circumstances when the school can make a charge for certain activities. The governing body has a charging policy that details the full range of activities where a charge can be made. A copy of this is available from the school office.

4 Curriculum links

4.1 All educational visits and activities support and enrich the work we do in school. There are 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.

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 Local Authority:

- English – theatre visits, visits by authors, poets and theatre groups;
- science – use of the school grounds, visits to botanical gardens;
- mathematics – use of shape and number trails in the local environment;
- history – castle visits, study of local housing patterns, local museums;
- geography – use of the locality for fieldwork, village trails;
- art and design – art gallery visits, use of the locality;
- PE – range of sporting fixtures, extra-curricular activities, visits by specialist coaches;
- music – range of specialist music teaching, extra-curricular activities, local schools' orchestra, concerts for parents to hear;
- design and technology – visits to local factories/design centres;
- ICT – its use in local shops/libraries/secondary schools etc;
- RE – visits to local centres of worship, visits by local clergy.

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. Our Parish Priest takes mass in school on a weekly basis. Other local religious leaders also take assemblies in the course of the school year. We do this with the full agreement of the governing body.

5 Residential activities

5.1 Children in Year 5 and 6 have the opportunity to take part in residential visits. There is a charge for board and lodging, insurance and specialist instruction for certain activities. We do have an arrangement where any parent who is unable to afford the full cost of the visit can request a reduced cost place. These are considered on an individual basis.

5.2 The residential visits enable children to take part in outdoor and adventure activities as part of their PE work. We undertake these visits only with the written agreement of the Local Authority. All specialist activities are undertaken with qualified instructors and bought in professionals.

Signed:

Date: