



St Paul's C of E VA Primary School

Lettings Policy

Last Reviewed : September 2023

Next Review: September 2027

L Varney

Headteacher

Date: _____ 27.09.23

S Morrill

Chair of
governors

Date: _____ 27.09.23

1. Introduction

The Governing Body recognises the role of the school within the community and accepts the use of the School's premises for a variety of community and leisure purposes.

Use of the school premises by the school, or on behalf of the school (e.g. PTA) are not subject to the charging elements of this policy.

A copy of this policy will be sent with the booking form to the Hirer when the initial enquiry is made.

2. Categories of Lettings

The use of the school premises is divided into the following three categories:

- i. Community and Leisure Learning (e.g. adult education)
- ii. Private (e.g. Wedding Receptions)
- iii. Commercial

3. Charges

The Governing Body reserves the right to make a charge for the use of the school premises. The charge will vary according to the needs of the letting as laid out in the booking form.

4. VAT

VAT is normally chargeable only on lettings of sports facilities (a concession may be available from H.M. Revenue & Customs if certain conditions are met).

5. Application Procedures

a) Application forms, available from the school, should be submitted to the school office at least two weeks before the first day of the proposed letting. In the case of block bookings, four weeks notice should be given. The person signing the application form will be considered to be the Hirer. The booking acceptance will be confirmed by returning the photocopied booking form to the Hirer with signatures from the Headteacher, Chair of Governors and Hirer.

b) All applications will be considered on their merits, taking into consideration the suitability of the activity. The Governing Body reserves the right to:

- refuse applications without giving a reason
- have a representative present at any function
- terminate any activity not properly conducted

c) Letting fees are reviewed annually by the Governing Body. When the letting has been confirmed, payment must be made to the school, prior to the use of the premises.

d) After school clubs will be charged termly or half termly dependent on the length of the booking. All charges are to be paid in advance via bank transfer. Bank transfer details will be available on each invoice. A receipt will be issued for all payments received.

CONDITIONS OF USE

6. Security of the Premises

Entrance to the school will be via the Main Entrance, which will be opened by the school caretaker at an agreed time. For security and insurance reasons, the school keys will not be available to the Hirer. It will be the responsibility of the Hirer to ensure that the school premises are secure during the time they are in use, i.e. ensure that the Main Entrance is locked when all members of the group are inside. The entrance door must not be left open or ajar at any point during the hiring process. The Hirer will be responsible for manning the door and allowing access to the school premises after the school caretaker has unlocked the building.

7. Use of Facilities

1) The Hirer will be responsible for the proper use of the school facilities (specialist equipment is not generally available e.g. projectors, TV and video equipment, cookers etc., unless special arrangements have been made) and must take all reasonable precautions to ensure that there is no damage to the fabric of the buildings; furniture and fittings, or school equipment. The Hirer will be responsible for making good any damage to the premises and property. Any precautions required to ensure the users' safety when using equipment are the responsibility of the Hirer. This includes, for example, the provision of information and training in the use of the equipment.

In all cases, the Hirer must ensure that risks associated with the activity are properly controlled throughout the hire period and that the premises are returned to the control of the school in a clean and satisfactory condition.

2) All mains powered electrical equipment brought onto the premises must be safe and evidence may be required that it has a valid test and inspection certificate (the certificate should be less than one year old for earthed equipment, or less than 4 years old for double insulated equipment). Lower voltage equipment must also be safe and in good condition.

3) The Hirer must be advised that they cannot rely on the school's risk assessments for any activities carried out during the letting and must complete their own risk assessments, a copy of which must be held by the school

4) Users should acquaint themselves with the Fire and Safety regulations and procedures relating to the area of the premises in use. These will be clearly displayed in each of the designated areas. It is the responsibility of the Hirer to provide first aid equipment and trained personnel. The Hirer must ensure that all participants are aware of the fire procedures and that they know where the nearest fire exits are located.

5) Fire exits must not be blocked or locked, nor should furniture, equipment, or other obstructions be placed in corridors during the hiring.

6) The Hirer must use only that area of the building hired and must observe any instructions given by the school concerning the area available. Any furniture or equipment moved by the Hirer should be returned to its original position at the end of each session.

7) A (disabled) toilet is available in the Main corridor.

8) The Hirer is responsible for ensuring that good order is kept on the premises and within the immediate environs of the school, and that the premises are left in a clean and tidy condition.

9) The Hirer will be responsible for ensuring that the group has adequate insurance appropriate to the activities organised.

10) The school reserves the right to levy an additional charge to cover:

- any additional cleaning that may be required after an event
- the cost of repair of damage to the school fabric or equipment
- the cost of replacement of any items of school equipment if uneconomical to repair.

11) Alcohol must not be sold or consumed on the premises unless a license has been sought and this has been agreed with the Headteacher. Unconsumed beverages or food on site must be removed from the premises immediately after the function has ended.

12) Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the school building.

13) Animals, other than Helper Dogs, are not permitted anywhere on the school premises. This is purely on grounds of hygiene.

14) No combustible materials are to be used within the school, except with the express approval of the Governing Body.

In the event of an incident, fire or near miss

The school must ensure that County Council Incident Report forms are made available to the Hirer, who in turn, must ensure one is completed correctly and that an investigation is undertaken. A review of the risk

assessment for the activity will be required. If the Hirer has produced a risk assessment then the hirer is responsible for undertaking the review and informing the school of any findings that may be relevant. Schools are NOT responsible for undertaking risk assessments for Hirer's activity(ies).

In the event of fire

- The Hirer will call the Fire Service (if school staff are not present and supporting the activity)
- All users will evacuate the building via the nearest fire exit and muster at the designated point.
- Users must not re-enter the building until the 'all clear' has been given. The Fire Service will give this.
- Fires must be reported using the County Council Incident Report form.

8. Licences

There are a variety of licences that may be required for different types of function. The onus is on the Hirer to ensure which are necessary, and must produce documentary evidence before the letting takes place. The Hirer will indemnify the school and LEA against any action brought about by failure to obtain the necessary licence(s). The following categories of letting may require a licence:

- Theatre licence
- Copyright/Royalty licence
- Cinematography licence
- Music, Singing and Dancing
- The selling or consumption of any alcohol

9. Insurance

The Hirer will be entirely responsible for the proper use of facilities and must take all reasonable precautions to ensure that there is no damage to the fabric of the building, furniture and fittings or any school equipment.

- i) The Hirer shall indemnify the Local Education Authority when signing the application form against any claim for bodily injury or loss of damage to property (real or personal) whether belonging to the LEA or to any other person if the said loss, damage or injury is either caused by the negligence of the user or by the negligence of any other person using the premises hired with the permission of the Hirer.
- ii) The effect of i) is that the Hirer will be liable to indemnify the LEA for any damage which is caused when the premises are being used for a function for which they are let. However, it is only operative if the damage etc. is caused by the negligence of the user or any other person using the premises with the Hirer's permission.

10. Cancellations

a) By the Hirer

Cancellations should be made in writing at least 24 hours before the proposed letting, otherwise the Hirer will still be liable for the standard charges. In the event of a cancellation being made at the appropriate time, the school will credit the Hirer for a free booking the following term, if applicable, or refund the fee if no further bookings are required.

b) By the School If the school finds it necessary to cancel a booking, as much notice as possible will be given, generally not less than 24 hours. A full refund will be made. The L.E.A and the school will accept no liability in respect of commitments incurred by the Hirer due to such cancellations.

11. Review

This policy will be reviewed November 2027, and at any other time as may be necessary.



LETTINGS BOOKING FORM

LETTING FEES

Charges for the hire of school premises are as follows:

Per Hour

Gym, Hall, Class or Field £15 per hour.

There is a minimum expectation that the hall will be hired for 1hr.

Payment methods

Payment for all bookings will be required in full at the time of booking. These will be charged termly or half termly dependent on the length of the booking. All charges are to be paid in advance via bank transfer. Bank transfer details will be available on each invoice. A receipt will be issued for all payments received.

CANCELLATION FEES

Cancellations at less than 24 hours notice will incur a charge equal to the full letting fee.

A non-refundable deposit of £10 will be payable at time of booking.

Contract

I hereby confirm that I have read and agree to the terms and conditions as set out in the Lettings Policy and understand my responsibilities as a Hirer.

Hirer Signature _____

Date:

Headteacher Signature _____

Date

Representative of Governing Body Signature _____

Date: