



## St Nicholas Church of England Primary Academy LETTINGS POLICY

### Philosophy:

Provided there is no interruption to school use of the premises, part of the school buildings and grounds may be let to outside bodies after the end of the school day, at weekends and during the holidays, in order to:

- Raise income for the school
- Better integrate the school into the local community
- Familiarise individuals with the school, who may become pupils or their parents
- Satisfy some of the needs of local individuals, groups and organisations
- Increase the use of facilities that are under used by the school

### Implementation:

Bookings are made through the school office, as authorised by the Governing Body, and confirmed in writing.

- School and PTA activities have priority
- No bookings are confirmed more than 4 months in advance although provisional bookings may be made at any time
- Outline charges are set by the Business Manager & Headteacher/Governors and reviewed annually, with the understanding that a minimum 2% increase is applied annually September
- Specific charges are set at the time of the agreement
- Payment is in advance for single lettings
- All long term lettings are invoiced termly
- This agreement is updated and reviewed at least annually
- A diary is kept covering all school, PTA and outside use of the premises and grounds after school, in evenings, at weekends and in holidays

Users sign an agreement that covers:

- Terms and conditions relating to type of and length of use
- Cancellation
- Damage
- Insurance
- Charging (as attached)
- Restrictions on use
- Licensing for the sale of alcohol, or public performances
- Parking

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**Roles and Responsibilities:**

- The school's authorised representative is responsible for the construction and regular update of the lettings diary.
- The PTA secretary and individual teachers are responsible for informing the school receptionist a term in advance, of events outside teaching hours, which will use the school premises
- Opening and closing the school is undertaken by the caretaker, or assistant caretaker, or by prior agreement with an authorised member of the staff (usually Business Manager)
- Supervision during the letting is the responsibility of the user. The user is also responsible for the security of the area of the school being used
- When a risk assessment is completed by the user or the school, in relation to the premises or activity or equipment involved, the user must ensure any controls are complied with
- Post-letting checks are made by the caretaker and reported to the receptionist
- The receptionist will ensure that excess wear and tear on the buildings and equipment is avoided and will follow up unsatisfactory lettings to resolve issues

**Monitoring & Evaluation:**

Lettings should be evaluated to assess the additional income raised for the school, less the cost of any reasonable wear and tear to the furniture and fabric of the school, made during lets and costs of additional heating and caretaker's payments.

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**CONDITIONS OF USE FOR A LETTING**

Use of School premises for a letting must be agreed in advance and confirmed in writing by both the user and the authorised representative of the school. The agreement will include the fee and any other charges payable. These are reviewed in advance of the second and succeeding years. It must be recognised that school use of the premises takes priority and that there may be occasions when arrangements have to be changed (where possible these will be advised at the time agreement is reached). Formal confirmation of bookings will be made termly when school requirements have been finalised.

If the user wishes to cancel a specific booking or set of bookings;

- five clear working days notice must be given of the cancellation, in which case the school will charge a cancellation fee of a quarter the total fees due.
- If less than five days notice is given, the whole of the fees may be charged by the school. When regular weekly/monthly bookings have been made, cancellation will result in a negotiated fee according to the opportunities available for re-letting the facility.

Damage or loss of any kind sustained to the premises, fixtures and/or fittings, furniture and/or other chattels therein arising out of or in connection with use of the school shall be made good at the expense of the user within one month by the school or, by agreement, by the user and to the satisfaction of the school.

The users are required to make arrangements for suitable insurance cover (currently a minimum of £5 million for each and every claim for public liability) with a reputable company in respect of claims which might be made against them by a third party for accidental injury including death or accidental loss, or damage to property arising out of, or in consequence of, the letting and to cover the school, and must produce proof of the policy before the letting is contracted.

However, if non-commercial users are unable to provide insurance cover which meets the Academy's requirements, cover must be arranged through the Risk Protection Arrangement for Academy Trust, for which a contribution towards the cost of the RPA Hirers' Liability equal to 3.15% of the total hire charge will be levied in addition to the hire charge itself. The user will be responsible for the first £500 of each and every property damage claim.

The charge for a letting payable by the user includes an amount to cover payment for standard opening and closing caretaking duties and may include additional duties if agreed prior to the letting. The user is expected to adhere strictly to the agreed times or, subject to a caretaker being available, be prepared to pay additional overtime.

It is the user's sole responsibility to control entry of all visitors at the external entrance allocated and to ensure that only those people known to them are allowed access to school premises. The entrance and any other external doors that are unlocked must be controlled by responsible adults at all time during the period of the letting. On completion of the letting a check must be carried out to ensure that all windows have been shut and secured, and all visitors have left the premises.

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The user shall not cause or permit any nuisance or disturbance to other occupiers or users at the school or to occupiers of neighbouring properties.

The user should be aware of the appropriate action to be taken in the event of fire or other emergency. They should know where extinguishers are located and how to use them, how to obtain assistance from the emergency services and the location of fire exits.

The Health and Safety at Work, etc Act, 1974 (as amended) imposes duties not only on employers in respect of their employees but also on persons having control over places of work or places where plant or substances are used and on anyone who by virtue of a contract has an obligation in relation to such a place. The duties are to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable, that the facilities and means of access are safe and without risk to health. Users must comply with the school health and safety policy, a copy of which is available on request.

The school meals facilities/canteen is not available for hire.

All rubbish, empty containers, crates, etc must be removed from the premises by the user immediately after the letting has taken place and before the caretaker locks up. Furniture and equipment is to be left as found unless other arrangements have been agreed with the school's authorised representative or caretaker.

The use of materials for preparing floors for dances and the wearing of shoes likely to damage floors, especially in any hall is prohibited.

The premises shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which agreement has been granted nor shall any areas of, or furniture/equipment in, the school but not included in the letting agreement be used without express permission; in such cases an extra fee may be payable.

The user must have written permission from the Governing Body before arranging for alcoholic drinks to be consumed on the premises. Under The Licensing Act 2003 the users are responsible for Temporary Event Notices (TENs) to the district/borough council and local police. Alcoholic drink may not be brought onto the premises while students are present and must be cleared from the premises when the event ends.

No public performance of a play, cinematography exhibition, public dancing, singing, music or other public entertainment of the like shall be performed in or close to the premises unless any necessary licence for the same shall first have been obtained from the appropriate authority and all necessary measures taken to fulfil the conditions of the licence. It may be that DfE blanket PRS (Performing rights Society) or PPL (Phonographic Performance Ltd) Licences will cover some situations but this aspect must be cleared in advance with the school. Temporary Event Notices (TENs) are required not only for any sale/supply of alcohol, but also for regulated entertainment (eg. live and recorded music and performance of dance) and late night refreshments.

Vehicles should not be allowed on the playing fields and no parking which restricts the caretakers' or emergency services access will be permitted. Consideration of separating vehicles and pedestrians on site should be considered where the activity poses additional risk. Parking on the roadway where double yellow lines are displayed is not permitted. Control of parking is the responsibility of the user. No responsibility can be taken by the school for any damage to vehicles sustained whilst in the school grounds.

No landlord and tenant relationship shall be created.

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APPLICATION FORM

<b>Name of Organisation</b>			
<b>Applicant's Name</b>			
<b>Address &amp;</b>			
<b>Post Code</b>			
<b>Telephone No</b>			
<b>Email address</b>			
<b>Use to be made of the premises</b>		<b>Maximum number of persons</b>	
<b>Accommodation required</b>		<b>With / without heating</b>	
<b>Days</b>		<b>Dates</b>	
<b>Times</b> <i>(including preparation and clear up time- premises not available after midnight unless express permission sought from LGB)</i>			
<b>Furniture and equipment requirements</b>			
<b>Insurance certificate available / unavailable*</b>			
<b>Caretaking requirements</b> <i>(opening, closing, for duration etc)</i>			
<b>Risk assessment will be provided for the activities listed here / Risk assessment not required</b> <i>(delete as applicable)</i>			
<b>Signed</b>		<b>Dated</b>	

**\*Commercial hirers must have their own insurance** of at least £5,000,000 to be seen and copied by the school. For non-commercial hirers the RPA insurance will be applied at 3.15% of the hire charge unless own insurance seen and a copy attached. Please note: RPA has £500 excess for which the hirer would be liable in the event of a claim.

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