

Carson a dh’fheumas sinn tuigsinn mu dheidhinn bochdainn?

Why do we need to Poverty Proof our school?

One in five (210,000) children across Scotland are living in poverty. In North Lanarkshire, nearly 25% (17, 922) of children are in poverty. If there’s not enough income it can mean that some children and young people don’t have the resources needed for school and can’t afford to take part in school activities which cost money. This puts them at risk of missing out on opportunities at school and feeling different, excluded and unhappy.

UNICEF estimates that 19% of British children live in food insecure households. This means that there are times when their household does not have enough money to buy enough food, or they cannot buy the full variety of foods needed for a healthy diet.

We believe that there needs to be a specific focus on the children and young people who are growing up in poverty to ensure that all children experience equity in their learning, and in life experiences that will shape their future.

PEF is used effectively to support poverty proofing our school.

Poileasaidh Taic Airson Bochdainn Bun-Sgoil Chondobhrait

Condorrat Primary School – Poverty Proofing Policy

A’ Cumal Taic Ri Ar Teaghlaichean A-mach As An Sgoil.

Supporting Our Families Outwith School

We recognise that many of our families require support outwith the school day with Food, Maximising Income and the costs of Fuel & Materials.

The school can support families with any of these issues, and can access other teams and organisations who can provide assistance.

Attached is a leaflet with useful contacts and details surrounding these areas, which our families can utilize independently, or via the school.

If you require support with any of the above please contact the Head Teacher Julie-Ann Price at: [ht@condorrat.n-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:ht@condorrat.n-lanark.sch.uk) or 01236 794826

Although it can be stressful and difficult to ask for support, we are always here to assist in any way that we can.

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Cosgais an Latha-sgoile/The Cost of the School Day.

We recognise that many of the costs associated with school can be hidden, and can put a great deal of pressure on the finances of our families. This should not be a barrier to attending school, or taking part in activities that are on offer. We have taken steps to reduce the cost of the school day in the following ways:

**Uniform**

* While uniform is encouraged, children do not need to wear uniform with the school logo. Parents can purchase uniform items in the school colours, from local cost effective sources.
* Our priority is that children attend school. If families do not have uniform they are encouraged to come to school in what they have until support can be arranged.

**Equipment & Resources**

* The school provides all materials needed for learning activities. There is no need for pupils to supply their own stationery items.
* Spare PE kits are available for pupils.

**School Trips**

* We try to plan trips carefully throughout the year, and keep costs down as much as is possible by partially funding them.
* We give parents time to pay for trips in instalments if required.
* Our parent Council donates funds towards trips to keep costs down.
* We discretely support families with several children, or those who would not be able to contribute to costs, to ensure that no child misses out
* No trip will be undertaken that requires additional equipment or expense, if equipment is needed i.e. wellies – the school will provide as required

**Charity Events/Non-Uniform Days/School Shows**

* All charity events and non-uniform days are optional. We gladly accept donations, but these are voluntary and monies are discretely collected. We ensure that there are always fun activities on charity days that all children can participate in that incur no cost
* Whilst shows are an opportunity for the school to raise funds, we ensure that all parents can attend if they wish to do so

**Clubs/Afterschool**

* Almost all opportunities to participate in activities are free. In situations where there is a cost the school will ensure that no family who wishes to take part will be excluded due to costs

**Digital Support**

* The school and Local Authority will provide digital devices to any family who need them, to ensure no child is excluded from the opportunity to participate in online learning

**Period Poverty**

* Pupils have free access to sanitary products, which can be taken home if required

**Leasachaidhean eile/Further Improvements Planned**

**We intend to:**

* create a uniform bank for parents with pre-loved, laundered uniforms available throughout the school year
* create a bank of pre-loved, laundered costumes for Hallowe’en and World Book Day
* create a bank of pre-loved, laundered Christmas jumpers

If any parent is willing/able to assist in setting up these banks, please contact the school office.