

# CUMBERNAULD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY

### PARENT SURVEY RESULTS- (12 MARCH 2021)



1. The school received 83 responses to the Cost of the School Day survey.

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
19/48	18/63	11/48	17/56	15/54	7/30	17/64

The sample is representative of all classes and stages across the school.

2. Which of the following items, or events cost you money?

	Number of responses
Uniform	79
Travelling to school	20
Breakfast club	8
Break time	55
Clubs and activities	51
Spending time with friends	22
Trips	57
Lunch	51
Fun events (e.g. discos, fundraising)	59
Homework	8

3. What are the **TOP THREE** costs for you across a school year?

	Number of responses
Uniform	<b>77</b>
Travelling to school	12
Breakfast club	1
Break time	15
Clubs and activities	<b>33</b>
Spending time with friends	11
Trips	27
Lunch	<b>37</b>
Fun events (e.g. discos, fundraising)	25
Homework	5

Overall, the **TOP THREE** costs for parents and carers are: **Uniform, lunch and clubs and activities**

4. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

***‘The school asks for too much money over a school year.’***

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? (Please tick ONE box only)  
The school asks for too much money over a school year

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<div></div> Strongly agree	2
<div></div> Agree	8
<div></div> Not sure	14
<div></div> Disagree	41
<div></div> Strongly disagree	18



A few (2%) of parents strongly agree with this statement

A few (9%) of parents agree with this statement

Less than half (16%) of parents were not sure if the school asked for too much money over the school year

Less than half (49%) of parents disagree with this statement

Less than half (21%) of parents strongly disagree with this statement.

Overall (70%) of parents who responded felt that the school did not ask for too much money over the school year.

5. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

***'It's difficult to afford all the things my child needs for school.'***

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? (Please tick ONE box only)  
'It's difficult to afford all the things my child needs for school'.

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● Strongly agree	4
● Agree	10
● Not sure	7
● Disagree	40
● Strongly disagree	22



A few (5%) of parents strongly agree with this statement.

A few (12%) of parents agree with this statement.

A few (8%) of parents were not sure about this statement

Less than half (48%) of parents disagree with this statement

Less than half (27%) of parents strongly disagree with this statement.

Overall (75%) of parents who responded felt that it wasn't too difficult to afford all the things their child/ren need for school.

6. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

***'There's always lots of notice given if the school is asking us for money.'***

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? (Please tick ONE box only)

'There's always lots of notice given if the school is asking us for money'

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Strongly agree	8
Agree	36
Not sure	22
Disagree	13
Strongly disagree	4



A few (10%) of parents strongly agree with the statement.

Less than half (43%) of parents agree with the statement.

Less than half (27%) of parents were not sure if there's always lots of notice given if the school is asking for money.

Less than half (16%) disagree with this statement

A few (5%) strongly disagree with this statement.

Overall, (53%) the majority of parents surveyed felt that school provided parents with sufficient notice when asking for money.

7. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

***'If I was struggling to pay for something at school I would feel comfortable telling staff about that.'***

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? (Please tick ONE box only)  
'If I was struggling to pay for something at school I would feel comfortable telling staff about that'

[More Details](#)

● Strongly agree	8
● Agree	10
● Not sure	22
● Disagree	23
● Strongly disagree	20



A few (10%) of parents strongly agree with this statement.

A few (12%) of parents agree with this statement.

Less than half (27%) of parents were not sure about this statement.

Less than half (34%) of parents disagree with this statement.

Less than half (24%) of parents strongly disagree with this statement.

Overall (58%) the majority of parents surveyed would not feel comfortable telling staff if they were struggling with costs associated with school.

8. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

***'I think there is enough support for families finding it difficult to afford school costs.'***

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? (Please tick ONE box only) 'I think there is enough support for families finding it difficult to afford school costs'

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Strongly agree	7
Agree	11
Not sure	46
Disagree	14
Strongly disagree	5



A few (8%) of parents strongly agree with this statement.

A few (13%) of parents agree with this statement.

The majority of parents (55%) were not sure if there is enough support for families finding it difficult to afford school costs.

(17%) of parents disagree with this statement.

A few (6%) of parents strongly disagree with this statement.

9. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

***'I know from the school how I would go about applying for free school meals and clothing grants.'***

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? (Please tick ONE box only) 'I know from the school how I would go about applying for free school meals and clothing grants'

[More Details](#)

Strongly agree	5
Agree	30
Not sure	35
Disagree	13
Strongly disagree	0



A few (6%) of parents strongly agree with this statement.

Less than half (36%) of parents agree with this statement.

Less than half (42%) of parents were not sure about this statement.

Less than half (16%) of parents disagree with this statement.

Overall, the majority of parents (59%) surveyed did not know from the school how to apply for free school meals and clothing grants.

## 10. What else could the school do to help families?

- I think just making sure there is enough notice before monetary events are coming up.
- Fundraise more
- As far as we are concerned the school helps enough.
- More promotion of the clothing grant and free school meals, more notice of requests for money (trips, fundraisers) plus clear messaging about how to discreetly contact the school if you are struggling or where to access help. Fewer dress up days.
- Maybe uniform/shoe exchange set up somewhere with an honesty box? (Post restrictions). This has been done at occasional school fairs, and promotes recycling rather than "charity"
- Perhaps a calendar (if possible) of expected costs throughout the year
- Make the breakfast club free for families on low income.
- Reduce the cost of school meals for P4-7
- I think the school does enough and we are not really asked for a lot of money throughout the year.
- Not sure, feel that the current support is adequate.
- I think the school is great at supporting their families.
- Free meals for all kids.
- Maybe an extra payment for uniform half-way through the term year as children outgrow their clothes often.
- I find that there is often little notice given for school trips and these can be costly, especially for parents with more than one child at school. I think we should plan trips (dates and cost) well in advance so that parents can prepare for this. Maybe tie this into a lesson on 'saving up' at the beginning of term 1 so that the kids see what they have by the time school trips come around
- The uniform can cost more than you get for clothing grant, if your child isn't wearing the "in" style of clothes they get bullied
- Give more notice of any trips, to help with budgeting.
- NLC could do more to highlight funds, grants and assistance available in their area which schools could promote online or with posters around school grounds.
- I think that when there is fundraising events and other activities on where we pay money for the kids it should be per household not per child. With the exception of school trips every child should pay the same
- Resources that are required to be used should be tillable pdf version so no print costs both economically and environmentally
- Have more parent council fundraising to pay for trips! On gym days have young children wear gym kit to school rather than having to buy a specific gym kit and trainers which get kept in



school!

- We could set up a uniform "bank" where people could get access to items they may need for small donation to school funds or free? I know most items I have at end of school year still look brand new when washed and pressed. I wouldn't mind helping with that if school could store items.
- Less pressure to contribute to donations etc.
- I think the school just has to be mindful of how often they are asking for donations and also emphasise a small donation such as a £1 is all that is needed.

## 11. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about costs at the school?

- All costs are very reasonable.
- There are a lot of parents with plenty of money, and others who are struggling. The school needs money, so it's about ensuring requests are targeted and optional. Optional raffles and crowd funders, rather than all kids bringing in cash. Although those requests say they are optional, the kids not able to bring in cash are aware - even if collection is discreet.
- Trips/events etc. However Covid lockdown was a cost issue as it required additional equipment/stationery. We have no printer and only one laptop which is used for work so this was the biggest issue/cost for us this school year.
- I know from volunteering at the school uniform bank that others struggle in this area. I'm not sure what else the school could do (as I personally haven't accessed this support) - but I do know there is a reluctance from parents to ask for support from the school (any school). In the school uniform bank, we find we don't receive many referrals from schools, despite their best efforts. Not sure how to overcome that reluctance.
- When my eldest daughter was in the early years at CPS I think the school definitely asked for too much money but I think it's better now however I am in a fortunate position to be able to afford what is asked for I am sure there are some parents who may really struggle with the costs and this could put them in an uncomfortable situation.
- The lunch costs are incredibly high. Some weeks my child is spending more than £20 over a period of 7-10days
- It all comes down to helping people budget with the money they actually have.
- Cumbernauld Primary expect the parents/carers to pay for everything and seem to fund very little from their own funds or parent council events
- Overall happy with the current situation.
- I think we are very privileged to have a free education system and help if we need it. Therefore I am simply very thankful for all that the school does ☐
- I would just like to say I think when the school do run trips or any fundraising events etc. it's always low cost and value for money.
- I think most are fair costs and do not grudge paying for it. More notice for school trip fees would be good
- To be honest, I think other than school trips, CPS are pretty mindful of not asking for too much.
- I think the school does a great job with the budgets they are given
- I think the costs involved are minimal and while we have always been able to meet them I've always felt the school has not put any pressure on parents and the voluntary aspect has always been highlighted for fundraising activities which I'm sure takes the pressure off some

families.

- Costs of Christmas jumper day and World book day is where I spend the most as I have 3 kids in primary school.
- There are a lot of costs associated with fun days/activities/fundraising at school such as world book/ wear pink/ house colours/ Christmas plays etc. where children have to dress up! Although there is no pressure from the school to take part, no parent wants their child to turn up at school and feel left out if they don't have the appropriate costume/t-shirt etc.!
- I don't agree that in state education the parent should foot the bill for excursions to enhance the learning experiences.
- I think that as Cumbernauld Primary is in quite an affluent catchment area the school may be influenced by this and perhaps ask more frequently than other schools for donations. I therefore worry about the pressure this puts on those families who are struggling.
- I have had experience of clothes mostly outdoor jackets being damaged by other pupils - if you couldn't afford a new one this could be distressing .

## Terms of reference

almost all	means	over 90%
most	means	75% to 90%
majority	means	50% to 74%
less than half	means	15% to 49%
few	means	up to 15%