

Cardinal Newman High School Cluster Poverty Proofing Statement



Cardinal Newman High School Cluster Vision Statement is intended to help build a shared understanding of the impact of poverty and offers guidance to our children and young people, families and all staff in educational establishments.

Cardinal Newman High School Cluster consists of Laburnum Family Learning Centre, Holy Family Primary, Sacred Heart Primary, St Gerard's Primary and St John Paul 2 Primary. All staff across the Cluster work collaboratively to provide the best opportunities and outcomes for the pupils and their families. Our vision shows that we put our young people and our community at the heart of everything we do. We aim to ensure that all pupils 3-18 are achieving their full potential in school and develop the skills to live a happy, healthy and successful life.

By developing this position statement Cardinal Newman High School Cluster strives to remove the poverty barriers to education to ensure that all members feel included in our local and wider community.

This policy was devised using "The Cost of the School Day Toolkit"



“Poverty means not being able to heat your home, pay your rent, or buy the essentials for your children. It means waking up every day facing insecurity, uncertainty and impossible decisions about money. It means facing marginalisation – and even discrimination – because of your financial circumstances. The constant stress it causes can lead to problems that deprive people of the chance to play a full part in society.”

Joseph Rowntree Foundation

A message from the children.....

Its better to educate kids on poverty. I think they should do more, like, financial awareness of the areas we're in because these are some of the poorest areas in Dundee. And if you were to take that and teach kids more about that then I think they'd take people having less money less as a joke and take it more seriously. I think in the younger years they think "oh you don't have that, you're not good enough" but that's because of a lack of knowledge.

S5 PUPIL

We
aspire

Pupils need to be more open minded. Maybe if we were taught lessons about people who have less money...You need to be brought up in an environment where you are open to people who are different. If you're talking about these things then you'll be a better adult and then our generation will be better.

P7 PUPIL

LIVE
LEARN
WORK
INVEST
VISIT

Financial Support

North Lanarkshire Council is committed to tackling and reducing poverty.

School leaders can identify families who are living in poverty and refer them to the Financial Inclusion Team on the first instance, provided they have consented to share their information. The Financial Inclusion Team will advise families which options are available to them based on their personal circumstances. Any advice provided by the Financial Inclusion Team is confidential, free and impartial.

The Financial Inclusion Team can offer advice, representation and advocacy in a number of fields including:

- disability living allowance
- attendance allowance
- tax credits
- employment and support allowance
- income support
- jobseeker's allowance
- carer's allowance
- child benefit
- universal credit
- personal independence payment

Contact Details for Financial Support	
Financial Inclusion Team	By telephone on 01698 332551 By email Fit@northlan.gov.uk
Citizens Advice Scotland	By telephone on 01698 748615 By email: www.bellshillcab.org.uk Address: 6 Hamilton Road, CNHS

The Financial Inclusion Team also offer debt and money advice.

- Rent/mortgage arrears
- Council tax arrears
- Pay day loans
- Personal loans
- Store/credit cards
- Gas/electricity arrear
- Budgeting guidance

In particular times of crisis, schools can make one off referrals to Bellshill Foodbank, 451 Main Street Bellshill.

This should be on the basis that families are then referred to the Financial Inclusion Team to work on more long term support.

Educational establishments will also work with agencies around the school to promote their services supporting families living with the effects of poverty for long term support.

School Uniform



COMMUNITIES
TOGETHER

All schools within the cluster encourage young people to wear school uniform and feel proud to be part of the community. It helps promote inclusion and a sense of belonging. All our pupils are supported to make sure they are not in any way prejudiced. Schools actively promote applications for clothing grants and are always there to help and signpost support.

Communities Together was created in response to the needs of Bellshill, Mossend and Thorniewood Areas in North Lanarkshire against the backdrop of Coronavirus. As part of their service they launched a school uniform clothing bank that can help Bellshill families whose children attend Mossend Primary, St Gerard's Primary, Sacred Heart Primary, Noble Primary, Holy Family Primary, Tannochside Primary, Aitkenhead Primary and John Paul 2 Primary, Bellshill Academy or Cardinal Newman High School. They operate out of the YMCA in Bellshill Main Street, 9am -6pm Monday to Friday.

Equipment and Resources



All students within the cluster are encouraged to 'be ready' for school, bringing with them their own materials.

Nevertheless, young people will not be expected to have items that bring with them a cost. Pencils, pens and other items are readily available in classrooms for pupils to use. These can be distributed subtly to ensure that children and young people do not feel discriminated against. Support is given to families and young people who struggle to meet the costs of equipment.

Staff have an awareness of the SIMD profile of the young people and financial constraints which are considered when planning for excursions and events. At expensive times of the year and charity events family donations are accepted to reduce to cost to large families. Within the Cardinal Newman High School Cluster we can guarantee that no pupils will be excluded from social events as a result of financial constraints.

Students identified as requiring ICT provision at home have been allocated, as per NLC plans with a laptop and internet dongles to support key learning at home.

E mail:

contactus@communitiestogether.scot

<https://www.communitiestogether.scot/>



01698 747483

Bellshill YMCA, 294 Main Street, Bellshill

01698 747483

Excursions

All school / nursery visits are of educational benefit to young people. Excursions are planned in advance and allow for families to spread the costs. Schools are sympathetic to individual circumstances and open up channels for discussion with individual families to target those who require additional support. A named person will be available for each trip to discuss this support.

All planned trips are non-profit. Before excursions take place schools / nurseries will communicate to parents what will happen if money is left over. This is to keep costs as low as possible for all families. Lunches are made available for those with free meal provision. (Excludes trips abroad)

Parental views

Across North Lanarkshire views of parents and carers are sought regarding the cost of the school day via online surveys. The survey is designed to seek views of parents and carers as to how schools take into account the cost demands of the school day. Steps are put in place to reduce costs where possible. Centres should also engage with families who do not respond to digital surveys. This should be done by targeting sample groups of parents across the centres demographic. This survey should be reviewed each year.

Views of Children and Young People

Views of children and young people should also be sought. Centres gather the views of a variety of young people using different means. Schools use class lessons, pupil councils and individual surveys to capture the views of young people and look to action points raised. This practice should be reviewed each year.

Charity, fundraising activities, Shows and Themed days

Cardinal Newman High School Cluster prides itself on being supportive and understanding of the needs and demands on families during difficult times. As much as possible schools plan events and include them on the school calendar. Schools hold a range of resources to support young people such as Halloween costumes and costumes for world book day. No child will be excluded from events due to cost.

Staff have an understanding of financial constraints and families can contact the staff in school to discuss concerns. Staff will also contact families and young people that they recognise will have added pressure to their financial situation. Collecting money for charitable events will always be made in a discrete manner.

Cardinal Newman High School Cluster schools have strong links with Community organisations organisation for groups in the community supporting families with a range of issues. VANL signposts families to organisations such as foodbanks, CAB and FIT to name a few.

Period Poverty

To mitigate period poverty all students have access to safe, hygienic sanitary products in school and are available to take home. Students are made aware of product locations and staff who they can speak to confidentially. Discretion and dignity is the priority in planning for these circumstances.

Education and awareness of the hygiene issues surrounding menstruation are crucial and embedded into the curriculum at secondary level through Health and Wellbeing lessons so that students develop a sound knowledge and understanding of how to manage their period safely.

Food Poverty

Breakfast clubs are available in all schools across the Cardinal Newman High School Cluster. Snacks and breakfast are available to young people to ensure that they do not arrive hungry. Cluster schools and family learning centres also provide snacks to those who arrive at school hungry. Staff are aware of the impact of hunger on a child's learning and have clear referral pathways in place to ensure that schools are 'Getting it Right for Every Child.'

School leaders identify students and families experiencing poverty and support them in a number of ways. The cluster has a directory of supports to identify agencies who can help families facing different circumstances. Schools are aware of the Financial Inclusion Team and share contacts with families.

MOSSEND CREDIT UNION Ltd

12 Pollock Street, Mossend, Bellshill, ML4

1QD

<https://www.mosshillcu.co.uk/>





THE IMPACT OF BRIGHT IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS (BIAS) TO POVERTY PROOF SCHOOLS!

There are many examples across North Lanarkshire as to how best approach poverty proofing the school and allowing children to experience a stigma free learning environment where they can flourish and learn. Here are just some of the examples that have proved good practice and made a difference to children and families. Every school will have their own approach and not all schools have the same capacity to introduce support in all areas.

HELPING WITH P.E

No stigma attached to labels. Increased participation in physical education.

HELPING OUT WITH CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT

Appropriate resources for the school day and no stigma attached to fancy brands.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Access to appropriate personal care items and no child stands out as everyone receives

HELP WITH SCHOOL UNIFORMS AND DRESS UP EVENTS

Families have good quality clothing and footwear at no/little cost. Children have appropriate items for any events. Positive impact on attendance on 'special' days. Reduced stress for children and increased attendance on these days.

HELP WITH SCHOOL TRIPS/EXCURSIONS

Positive impact on attainment as experiences provide contexts to support learning. Shared experiences with friends. Lower absences. No/Less financial burden.

NO GIFT POLICY

No financial burden on families, especially at Christmas. No stress for children who don't have a gift to give

INFORMATION COST CALENDAR AVAILABLE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR

Families can budget in advance and add to their iPay accounts

APPEAL TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY- DONATIONS OF FOOD, CLOTHING, TOYS ETC.

More awareness in the community of needs throughout the year. Families in need are supported.

INCREASED LINKS WITH ORGANISATIONS AND EXTERNAL AGENCIES

Able to refer families and/or signpost them for support. Families' needs can be met

Organisation	Delivers on	Contact person	email	phone	Web page
Viewpark Conservation	The Viewpark Conservation Group aims to promote the recreational activities and encourage local people to use green space and get involved in local events	Grace McNeil	grace.mcneil581@gmail.com		http://www.viewpark.org.uk/
Nurture Scotland	Kinship care and support for families	Catherine McAvoxy	enquiries@nurture-scotland.org	T: 01698 264200 M: 07547525674	https://www.nurture-scotland.org/
VIP viewpark	Drama and dance for children and young people.	Gail	vipass@outlook.com		https://www.facebook.com/VIP-Youth-Academy-Of-Arts-227001687417176/
Jack and Jill	Parent carers family support group for Additional Support Needs		jackandjillbellshill@gmail.com	07594 468854	http://www.jackandjillbellshill.co.uk/
Play Piece	Parent carers support group for children with Additional Support Needs Meet in various locations		playpeace@hotmail.com	07950 395491	https://www.facebook.com/PlayPeaceActivities/?ref=page_internal
Flipside	Groups for young people and adults with Additional Support Needs	Claire Mooney	wee_cx@hotmail.com		https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=flipside%20bellshill
VANL reps for Bellshill	Sharon Bissett hosts the Bellshill Joint Locality Group Joyce Morgan is the lead for children and families Currently involved with Dollywood Imagination library.		sharon.bissett@vanl.co.uk joyce.morgan@VANL.CO.UK		

Organisation	Delivers on	Contact person	email	phone	Web page
YMCA	Support children and young people. After school and befriending.	Rachel Nixseaman	<Rachel.Nixseaman@ymcabelshill.org>	01698 747483	https://www.ymcabelshill.org/
Homestart	Work with and support with various aspects of need, from mental health to attainment	Christine Baillie	Christine@homestartn.org.uk	01698 442 883	https://homestartglasgownorth.org.uk/
Bazooka arts	Mental health supports through art	Bryony/Zoe/Kirsty	create@bazookaarts.org	0774 201 7312	https://www.bazookaarts.co.uk/
North Lanarkshire carers together	Information and signpost c. Campaign. Carers Rights	Colin Smith	colin@carerstogether.org	01698 404055	http://www.carerstogether.org/
Who Cares	Support care experienced children and young adults	Laura Campbell	lcampbell@whocarescotland.org		https://www.whocarescotland.org/
Communities Together Service across 3 orgs YMCA/Salvation Army/Viewpark church	Food bank and sign posting/financial support info. Also have access to clothing and furniture	CT-Angela Woolley SA- Miriam Wing VPC-Debbie Wilson	Miriam.wing@salvationarmy.org.uk debbie.wilson@viewparkparishchurch.org.uk contactus@communitiestogether.scot		www.communitiestogether.scot https://www.facebook.com/BellshillSA/ http://viewparkparishchurch.org.uk/
Routes to work	Supporting people to access jobs and training. Support for offenders on return home.	Peter McCarroll	pmccarroll@routestowork.co.uk		https://www.routestowork.co.uk/
Orbiston neighbourhood centre	Various projects from toddler to elderly day care to befriending	Irene Gibson	<irene@oncbellshill.org>		http://www.oncbellshill.org/

Organisation	Delivers on	Contact person	email	phone	
Addictions Support & Counselling (ASC)- Forth Valley	Substance Misuse Recovery Development 18 dedicated Recovery staff who are professionally qualified and who have lived experience of having a substance misuse problem. They attempt to turn the aspiration of recovery into tangible and meaningful achievements for individuals and families affected by substance misuse.	Rebecca Gavin Assistant Recovery Development Worker	rgavin@asc.me.uk		www.asc.me.uk
Salvation Army Gladstone St, Bellshill ML4 1AT	Various community initiatives from toddlers groups lunch clubs. Food bank and also helps people with accessing housing items and clothing	Miriam Wing	Miriam.wing@salvationarmy.org.uk	01698 841899	https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/
Viewpark Parish Church 400 Old Edinburgh Road Uddingston Glasgow Scotland, UK G71 6PJ	Various community initiatives from toddlers groups lunch clubs. Food bank and also helps people with accessing housing items and clothing	Debbie Wilson	debbie.wilson@viewparkparishchurch.org.uk	01698 810478	https://viewparkparishchurch.org.uk/
VANL	Supports the voluntary sector groups. Over sees befriending, Community solutions . Training ops and links to various voluntary groups. Part of the HSCP.	Gina Alexander.	Gina.alexander@VANL.CO.UK	01236 748 011	http://www.voluntaryactionnorthlanarkshire.org/article/locator
Organisation	Delivers on	Contact person	email	phone	
The Well Foundation	Supporting wellness building in poor countries throughout the world. Part of the mosque. Delivers sport activities for children and young people as well as female specific activities	Fahim Baqir	fahim.baqir@wellfoundation.org.uk		https://www.wellfoundation.org.uk/
Thorniewood Community Council	Info on what's happening in the area.	Joseph Buddinakis	contactus@thorniewood.org		Facebook page
CMHT	Mental health support, adults	Janice Scott	janice.scott@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk		
Tennant participation	Supports older people living in council property. Supports groups within the housing.	Julie Bradley	bradleyj@northlan.gov.uk		
Restorative Justice	Supporting people within the justice system with payback scheme	Marion Doran	DoranM@northlan.gov.uk		
Addictions team Addiction Recovery Team	Supporting adults with addictions	Sandra Downie	Sandra.Downie@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk	01698 403535	https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=5115
Children and Families service manager		Voula Dunbar	FragogiannaV@northlan.gov.uk		
Mossend Football team	Football for children 5 years and upwards. Also signposting to other organisations.	Billy Mc Queen			On face book www.mossendfc.co.uk



HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASS

POVERTY PROOFING POLICY

Theme 1 – School / Nursery Uniform

While we will positively promote the wearing of uniform to create a school identity, all children will be welcomed to school and nursery regardless of their clothing.

All parents and carers are informed of the availability of non- branded uniform through local supermarkets and that we keep a bank of school uniform and footwear in the school that can be accessed free of charge.

We include PE kit, including gym shoes in this uniform bank which can be accessed at any time. Parents / carers are asked to donate any items of clothing they have to this on an ongoing basis. Any items in lost property for longer than 3 months are added to this.

The above uniform bank is extended to cover seasonal items such as Halloween costumes and Christmas jumpers.

If a child comes to school without uniform we provide uniform items and PE kit.

We provide a copy of North Lanarkshire Council clothing grant application forms at enrolment and for any new pupils and an electronic link to these application forms is included in school / nursery newsletters.

Theme 2 – Equipment and Resources

We provide stationery and other essentials in the classroom which pupils can use at any time.

There is no charge made for core curricular activities eg. cooking

A bank of clothing is freely available for subject areas such as PE and includes branded school sports clothing such as football, netball and cross country kit.

Children are not encouraged to bring expensive items to school.

Theme 3 – School and Nursery Trips

Where a trip or activity does have a cost attached we ask parents for a donation towards the cost if the full amount is a barrier. Spending money is discouraged and destinations are chosen where this is not required.

Those in receipt of free school meals automatically have all costs reduced to £1. A school packed lunch is made available to these children for full day excursions.

Any shortfall is met by the school / nursery or from the 'Inclusion Fund/ Nursery Sponsor Money

We always give parents as much notice as we can of activities and trips to allow time to save and pay.

Where families have more than two children any additional children make no payment.

We use ParentPay or payment cards to pay for trips or events over £1.00 whenever possible to ensure privacy.

We ask the Parent Council/Group for financial support in some instances e.g. trips / outings

For the P7 residential trip we give the parents 12 months to pay in instalments to help spread the cost.

We look at any requests for financial help and use PEF funds to support school based families. We signpost all families towards the Financial Inclusion Team.

Theme 4 – Charity, Fundraising Activities, School Shows and Themed Days

We keep 'dress down' days to a minimum and consider carefully the theme to ensure no additional cost to parents.

These days are always donation only and no one is excluded from taking part if they do not have a donation.

Donations are collected discreetly in a drop box.

Any fundraising events are spread out across the year to avoid asking for money too often.

School photographs etc. are subsidised to the cost of £1 for identified families

School shows are only every second year and do not require families to purchase costumes as these are provided by the school.

Theme 5 – Home Learning And Out Of School Hours Learning.

When setting out of school tasks/homework staff consider that not all children have unlimited digital access.

When setting out of school tasks staff consider that not all children have access to resources such as arts and crafts, printers etc.

As a result staff ensure that all children are given or offered the resources they need to complete a task.

Children are signposted towards the digital classroom for consolidation of home learning tasks so that they have a range of activities to choose from.

To encourage and promote reading we have a pre loved book swap/library in the main hall that all children can access.

As we are aware that it can be difficult for parents to meet the cost of after school clubs there is no cost for this.

Theme 6 – Period Poverty

In keeping with Scottish Government guidelines sanitary products are freely located in all toilet cubicles.

They are accessible in large quantities to enable enough to be taken for weekend / holiday use.

Learners are made aware that these free products are available within their local community.

Theme 7 – Food Poverty

We provide a paper version of Free School Meals application form at enrolment and for any new pupils.

An electronic link to Free School Meal application forms is included in our monthly newsletters. Club 365 is widely advertised and attendance encouraged.

Staff provide assistance as required for completing the forms.

Fruit / toast is freely available for any child who says they are feeling hungry or may not have a snack.

If a child's parents/carers have not prepaid lunch and they do not have a packed lunch we provide this.

If a child regularly does not have lunch booked and paid for we contact the family to offer support and signposting to the Financial Inclusion Team.

We provide cups and/or bottles for water for those children who are not able to bring one from home.

A school packed lunch is made available to those children entitled to a free school meal for full day excursions.

Donations only are requested for parents to meet the cost of nursery snack and this is voluntary with no further request should no donation be made.

Staff receive ongoing training and awareness raising of the council's food poverty referral gateway and the Scottish Welfare Fund.

Families are aware of the Financial Inclusion Team.