At Kirkton Primary, we recognise the need to reduce the ‘Cost of the School Day’ for all pupils and particularly for pupils who are experiencing poverty. We consider this under the following headings, Uniform, Learning, Friendship, School trips, Eating, Fun, Clubs and Home learning.

At Kirkton we believe the small things make a difference to our families. Equity is the responsibility for all.

Uniform

Our current uniform is grey trousers/skirts/tartan pinafores, green sweatshirts/cardigans and white poloshirts/white shirts. Families can purchase uniforms from Logos-On. We do not insist on badged sweatshirts/poloshirts. We have a ‘previously owned’ stall for parents to select items of uniform which have been previously owned for reuse at our front foyer. This will allow families to pick up some items free of charge or for a small donation throughout the year which may help with the cost of uniform. It also links with our Eco-sustainability ethos.

The P7 leaver hoodies are subsidised by the parent council.

**Learning**

Children at Kirkton Primary do not need to pay for any core learning activity. Pens and pencils are provided and young people do not need to bring their own equipment. We welcome pupils to borrow equipment if they need it to complete tasks e.g. specific resource/craft equipment. This includes ICT equipment e.g. chrome books for online learning at home/homework. We provided outdoor learning with a forest School Instructor through our PEF money. By doing so this has supported the mental health and well-being of our children in P7 and skills across their curriculum.

**Friendships**

We ensure that any pupil experiencing poverty-related bullying has a way of reporting this in confidence. We teach young people about poverty related issues as part of our Health and Wellbeing, Rights Respecting School, Food Bank Initiative and KPS Values work. We plan to further gather the views of our families on the Cost of the School Day and will look to involve them more in the decision-making around this.

School Trips

We are mindful when booking trips that they are low cost and we seek out grants to subsidise or fundraise to support the cost.

Eating at School

At Kirkton Primary P1-5 receive the offer of free school meals and next session this will be further offered into P6 and P7.

We offer a breakfast club every morning and a bowl of fruit is available to our children at playtime who may need a healthy snack (including those who may have forgotten their snack.)

Fundraising Events

Kirkton Primary recognise that events planned for enjoyment can actually put added pressure on families. Our Parent forum and our school organise Fun Events throughout the school year. When young people cannot afford to take part in any activity, we ensure they can still experience it by paying for them through the school fund.

We arrange many events that are cost free and donation based to ensure equity for all.

Annually we plan for a fundraiser and a charity event. We also offer pre loved costumes /jumpers to support our celebrations and books.

Our Gala event is fully subsidised by the school to ensure that all children can participate at no cost this year.

**School clubs**

At Kirkton Primary we have an extensive range of clubs on offer and we plan to extend it next year. We do not charge for pupils to take part. Some clubs may require specific equipment e.g. badminton racquet, football boots, and we do what we can to ensure the necessary equipment is available for all children in the school but may ask for voluntary donations towards this.

We are very clear that the Cost of the School Day is an area that requires constant vigilance and will not be ‘fixed’ by any one action. In our Improvement Plan for 2022/23 we will be focusing on

* Planning events for the year to provide advance notice for parents.
* Raise awareness of local charity organisations e.g. Clydesdale Foodbank, Baby Bank who may be able to help.
* Gather the views of parents with regards to what/when we ask for money to gain a confidential understanding of the views of the parent forum which, in turn will inform our future practice.
* Continue to offer all pupils a range of clubs to participate in

This statement was created to reflect the current practice at Kirkton Primary School.