

# Cost of the School Day Policy

Updated November 2019



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Recent Scottish Government policy and investment has focused on closing the equity and attainment gaps between children from lower and higher income households. Part of this is to understand and respond to families from lower income households where difficulties and financial barriers to participation may exist throughout the school day.

At Dunblane Primary School, we are aiming to adjust our practice to reduce any financial barriers that may be affecting some families, to spread costs across the year where possible, and to support particular children and families in practical ways when particular hardships have been identified.

The main areas for expense at Dunblane Primary School have been identified by staff, parents and children, and these are:

### **07:00 UNIFORM**

We encourage all children to wear uniform, including PE kit at Dunblane Primary School. We encourage parents to name items of uniform so that we can return lost garments to the right children. Parents should be made aware that school uniforms do not need to be bought from our supplier. School uniforms can be purchased from any shops or supermarkets. The school badge is not a requirement. The Parent Council runs a recycled uniform stall at school events where old and unclaimed uniform can be bought for a small donation. Parents can also come to the school office at any time and look for recycled uniforms in the Parent Council cupboard. The parent Council will make uniform packs which parent can take at the nursery end of term concert and also at the P1 induction evening. Some parents from the school have set up a "Dunblane Cares" Facebook page. The purpose of this page is to recycle school related clothes and items which are no longer required. This might include waterproof clothing for forest schools and Dalguise, pencil cases, school bags and clothes. The school has a small selection of items which can be loaned/given to children when necessary.

### **08:15 BREAKFAST CLUB**

The school has an Early Bird Club which runs on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 8.30-9AM. Children are invited to attend this club. The school will ensure they regularly review who attend this club.

### **09:15 LEARNING IN SCHOOL**

Children at Dunblane Primary School wear to gym a t-shirt which is the colour of their house. Many children get their name put onto the back of their t-shirts but this is not compulsory. Each class has a selection of gym kits which pupils can borrow for the lesson. The school provides pencils/pens/rulers and other every-day equipment for all

children. Some children choose to bring some of their own to use when appropriate. At the summer fete each year a stall will be set up where children donate any old school bags or pencil cases. The payment for this will be by donation. The Kids Count Citizenship group will make stationary kits for classes. MUSIC TUITION?

#### 10:30 FRIENDSHIPS AND ATTITUDES TO POVERTY

Through Citizenship Groups and the teaching of the Global Goals children at Dunblane Primary School are taught about poverty nationally and closer to home. The school supports local charities such as Home start.

#### 10:45 BREAK TIME

Tropical Tuesday and Fruity Friday takes place twice a week and children have the opportunity to buy fruit and milkshakes for 20p. A bowl is located outside Mrs Grant's office and children are welcome to help themselves to fruit on a daily basis. This fruit comes from the school dinners or extra from Fruity Friday and tropical Tuesday.

#### 11:00 SCHOOL TRIPS

Children will go on one school trip a year which has a cost. We endeavour to keep costs for trips and workshops as low as is possible. We have agreed not to ask for parents for more than £15 for any trip. Our Parent Council will sometimes also subsidise trips and workshops. No child is excluded from a trip or workshop due to incomplete payment. In the permission letters about school trips the costs will be broken down so parents are aware of exactly what their money is paying for. The school will offer the experience of going to a Pantomime out with the school one year and then an in school Pantomime the next year. We try to give parents as much notice as possible of any upcoming trips with costs. Parents are made aware that they can pay for this in instalments via Parent Pay. In all letters regarding trips the following paragraph will be included - "As always, we believe that **cost** should never be a barrier to participation. If you would like to discuss payment options then please speak to a member **of** the management team"

Primary 7's have a residential trip and parents are made aware of the cost of this trip and the kit list needed in October of Primary 6. We encourage parents to pay up over several months. The school can make bespoke arrangements re payments with particular families when necessary.

Payments for all trips are encouraged through ParentPay, thereby reducing the involvement of children in the process of paying, and any stigma attached.

#### 12:40 SCHOOL LUNCHESES

All children from P1-3 receive free school meals. School meals for P4-7 can be paid for via ParentPay, which allows for regular small payments or larger payments. However we will accept cash payments too for those who do not have access to online payment.

Parents are supplied with contact details in order to apply for free school meals and clothing grants as part of P1 induction, as children move to the end of P3, and regularly via newsletters. There is also a link to the forms on our website.

The fruit bowl is available for all children to access at lunchtimes as well as playtimes.

#### 14:00 FUN EVENTS

Burns Supper	January	Primary 7 pupil and families are invited to a Burns Supper which includes a 2 course meal. Ticket cost is - £5
World Book Week	March	Children will not be asked to dress up but instead they can wear their casual clothes and bring a book to school.
Quiz Night	May	Adults only
Summer fete	June	Token system is in place and parents are asked to buy tokens prior to the fete or on the day. This means that we can issue tickets to individual families. It is not compulsory to sell raffle tickets which come home
Halloween Disco	October	A few weeks prior to Halloween disco the Parent Council will organise for a swapping costumes rail to be put up at the school office. P1 -3 - £4 which covers the evening and includes a goodie bag P4 - 7 - £2.50 per ticket which includes 1 free go of something. Range of activities at a variety of prices starting at 20p
Book Club Book sale	November	This will take place at parent's evenings and parents will have control of what books are bought, if any.
Cauliflower Christmas cards optional homework activity	November	Parent choice whether they get their children to participate in this activity
Christmas Movie Night	December	Cost of the event is donations only
Xmas Carol Singing	December	Cost of the event is donations only

The school encourages the Pupil Council to organise charity fundraising throughout the school year. We endeavour to keep the costs low, and voluntary. Here is a list of the events we participate in and the financial output for these events. We need to be mindful of events happening too close to each other

#### 16:00 SCHOOL CLUBS

Various experiences happen throughout the year during and after school. Some of these are run by staff members, parents and Active Stirling e.g. Think Dance, cross

country, badminton etc. There is no cost to attend these clubs. Some of these experiences involve transport to and from events and the school support families to ensure all children can participate. All team sports gear is available from the school if required. The school are mindful of children who do not participate in any extra curricula activities and the school, where possible support families.

#### 19:00 LEARNING AT HOME

Some homework tasks involve children accessing digital technology. The school are aware of children who find this difficult and the children can complete these tasks during the school day. Teachers will ensure that at least one homework task does not involve digital technology. Children are encouraged to use the computers at the local library and at The Dunblane Centre.

#### GIFTS FOR TEACHERS

There is no expectation for gifts to be bought for teachers at any time throughout the academic year