



At Greenhills Primary School and Nursery Class, we recognise the need to reduce the Cost of the School Day for all our pupils and particularly for our families who are experiencing poverty. We began working in partnership with our Parent Council in January 2019 and over the three meetings reviewed how we could support families:

Food

During session, 2018-2019, 38% of children are entitled to a free school meal. The school has worked in partnership with St Andrews Methodist Church to provide a free breakfast club, twice weekly, for children within the school in this session. Around 30 pupils attend and we continually remind parents/carers that this facility is there for all children to access.

Nursery children, Primary 1 -3 pupils and some pupils in P4-7 are entitled to free school meals, however a number of children/families do not use this entitlement. We have shared with parent/carers at our transition days and in newsletters how much money families would save if their child had a free lunch.

Next Steps

Setting up of a breakfast club 5 days a week.

Uniform

Our current uniform is

- blue sweatshirt, sweater or cardigan
- black trousers, skirt or shorts
- yellow polo shirt or green polo shirt for P7 pupils, or white shirt
- blue/white gingham summer dress
- Blue and silver tie
- Families can purchase uniforms from

Following discussion at our Parent Council, we realised that the parents/carers receiving support to purchase uniforms would not receive this money before the last date of ordering uniforms without a charge. Cllr Fiona Dryburgh was able to ask South Lanarkshire Council if parents/carers could receive their entitlement earlier so that they did not incur additional charges for delivery. This has been set in place.

Next Steps

We have linked with the local church, St Andrew's Methodist Church and will give any unclaimed clothing to the church so that they can pass this on to families in need. The church is also intending to help support the families in other ways.

Learning

Greenhills Primary School children do not need to pay for any core learning activities. Essential stationery, e.g. Pencils, rubbers, rulers, are provided so young people do not need to bring their own equipment although some choose to do so.

Next Steps

Our aim is to ensure all homework activities involving making something use only recycled materials.



School Trips

As a school, we have been reviewing the cost of school trips for some time and have agreed that we will have one trip per year and give parents sufficient time to pay for the trip. Where we can, we take account of subsidies from a variety of organisations to help reduce the cost of the trip. We have also used PEF money to subsidise the cost of a trip. We have two whole school performances each year, which are subsidised by our PEF funding.

For trips that are more expensive, e.g. P7 residential, parents are given many months advanced notice to pay up the cost.

Next Steps

Review how we can reduce the costs for families.

Clubs

Most of our children are within walking distance of the school, however some come by bus or taxi, therefore we try to run some lunchtime clubs each year.

Next Steps

We will continue to review and monitor the attendance at the extra-curricular clubs to ensure equity for all.

Conclusion

We are aware that the Cost of the School Day is an area that requires constant focus and have already reviewed this in 2018-2019 with our Parent Council. We will continue to working in partnership with our Parent Council and wider community, where possible addressing the next steps identified above.

In June 2020, we will replace this statement with Greenhills Primary School and Nursery Class School Policy on Cost of a School Day.