

THE COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY



Cost of the School Day at St. Paul's PS: 2025-2026

Staff across the community of St. Paul's PS are aware of the effects of poverty and how it relates to the context of our school, our children and our families. We are committed to helping reduce the cost of the school day and to narrow the poverty related attainment gap. We carefully consider our plans and actions to ensure equity of opportunity for our learners and their families. We are also mindful of the financial impact aspects of learning and events may have on our families.

The information below illustrates the strategies and measures we have put in place to address the cost of the school day. These are reviewed and refreshed every school session as our school community changes and grows.

<p><u>Uniform</u></p>	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Uniform is promoted to negate any peer pressure for branded clothing. Our school uniform is a polo shirt, sweat shirt, shirt and tie with both plain and embroidered items acceptable as school uniform to ensure families can purchase items from a variety of local shops and online.PE kit is red t-shirt with black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms. We discourage the wearing of branded sportswear.We have a stock of 'Good as New' uniform available in the school office. <p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We will continue to build our partnership with West Lothian School Clothing Bank, to make sure donations get to the families who need support.School supply uniform to pupils who have made and received their school clothing grant therefore not eligible for further support.Fundraising events support the cost of supplying the school with additional items such as indoor shoes.
<p><u>Travel</u></p>	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Our School serves the denominational community of East Calder, Pumpherston, Kirknewton and Mid Calder and almost all children are within reasonable walking distance to school. <p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We encourage parents and carers to discuss any travel concerns with us to ensure we can support where appropriate and ensure children are able to get to school.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have bike and scooter rails in the playground to ensure that children can travel to school in a range of ways. • A school bus/taxi service is provided for pupils who require travel from Pumpherston, Mid Calder and Kirknewton. 	
<p><u>Excursions</u></p> 	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We aim to ensure that parents are given at least one month's notice to give parents the opportunity to pay for excursions in instalments. Class trips are usually limited to 1 per school session. • The school residential experience for P7 is planned 1 year in advance. Parents and families at this stage are consulted in P6 about the cost and duration of the camp. • Our parent council help to fundraise to ensure that excursions are supported e.g. the school fund would cover the cost of the bus to reduce the cost. • We use our local area to provide pupils with little/no cost opportunities e.g. local library, the park, Mid Calder Kirk, Almondell Country Park. 	<p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parent council help to subsidise the cost for identified families, particularly for our residential experience. This is done in a sensitive, anonymous manner. • Referrals for low income families to FORT and Parish charity (St. Vincent De Paul)
<p><u>Positive Relationships</u></p> 	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our school Values, Vision and Aims promote equity and inclusion. They underpin our commitment to ensuring that children feel safe and behave responsibly and respectfully to everyone in the school community. We work hard to ensure our learners are not disadvantaged by poverty. • Our whole school positive relationships framework has been refreshed to ensure there is a shared understanding of expectations and a consistent approach to supporting pupil behaviour both indoors and out. • All staff have engaged in nurture training and Trauma Informed Practice training to ensure there is a consistent approach to supporting children's social skills, regulation and engagement. • Weekly well-being check-ins are carried out at every stage. • Every child in school has at least one identified trusted adult. 	<p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional nurturing approaches are implemented for targeted groups across the school. • Some children have the opportunity to engage in mindfulness sessions in the outdoor environment. • HWB questionnaires implemented at upper stages to support transition (SHINE) • Referral process is used to provide additional support for children who require it e.g. ISS and Place2Be
<p><u>Learning at School</u></p> 	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school provides learners with all the stationery and core learning resources that are required throughout the school day. • The school is very well resourced for digital devices. We also promote a 'BYOD' policy in order that pupils can use their own device when required. 	<p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified learners benefit from targeted nurture approaches and have access to the nurture classroom • Identified learners have access to outdoor mindfulness sessions

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Active Schools co-ordinator provides a range of free clubs and opportunities for Sports Leaders from the cluster high school to provide additional PE opportunities. COSD approaches and Equity are a key focus of pupil leadership HWB committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified pupils have access to IDL, SFL interventions funded through PEF and provided by allocated PSW hours. Planned meetings for identified learners provide regular review and update through CPM, IEP reviews and parent partnership meetings when required.
<u>Home Learning</u> 	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All learners have access to digital devices in school. Teams and Seesaw is used to provide home learning activities. There is no requirement to print anything at home. Staff are mindful to ensure that pupils are not asked to produce anything at home that requires any additional resources or cost and where extra resources are required, pupils are provided with the materials they need from school. 	<p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children are encouraged to access whatever device is available to them at home. Pupils with no access to digital devices at home are provided with paper copies of tasks. Identified families are provided with a device when available.
<u>Family Engagement</u> 	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have a well-planned parental engagement calendar which is refreshed annually and contains a broad range of events such as assemblies, sharing the learning, and those with a specific focus such as P1-3 Nativity, Christmas Fayre and 'Brew and Blether'. We use a range of communication methods to keep in touch with parents such as Teams, Seesaw and regular class and school updates (Newsletters, email, groupcall) 	<p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular meetings are planned for learners with additional support needs such as CPM, IEP reviews Families who require wider additional support including financial support are contacted directly by SMT in a sensitive manner.
<u>Eating at School</u> 	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast club provision is free and accessible to all children. We promote Free School Meals and share information with all parents throughout the year. The school operates a cashless system to reduce any stigma around free school meals. Collections of goods donated to the local foodbank. Snacks are available for any child who needs one free of charge. 	<p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast is provided for any pupil who is late or who is known not to be given breakfast at home.
<u>School Clubs</u> 	<p>Universal Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After school clubs provided by Active schools co-ordinator are free of charge to include everyone. School choir and clubs provided by class teachers are also free of charge. Clubs are planned to provide a variety at different stages across the school. 	<p>Targeted Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subsidised after school club places are provided when needed. Lego club automatically provides free places.

