



Cost of the School Day Position Statement St Hilary's Primary School, South Lanarkshire Council



At St Hilary's 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, Travel, Learning, Friendship, School trips, Eating, Fun and Afterschool/Lunch time clubs.

Uniform

Our current uniform is a red and black tie, red sweater or cardigan with black skirt or trousers. Families can purchase uniforms from Border Embroidery. We do not insist on badged sweatshirts/poloshirts. We have a large stock of preloved uniform, which is managed by our Parent Council. Parents can select items as required.

Travel

The majority of our children travel to school by walking or by car.

Learning

Children at St Hilary's 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 have a procedure for pupils to borrow equipment if they need it to complete tasks e.g. specific resource/craft equipment.

Friendships

We work hard to ensure that any pupil experiencing poverty-related issues has a way of reporting this in confidence. We have yellow 'Time to Talk' boxes in each class where children can pop a note inside and teacher's will read at the end of the day.

School Trips

The average cost of trips for pupils is £5 - £6. We try to reduce the cost by subsidising the cost of the bus. We currently have a P7 Residential visit that runs for 4 days. Parents are given around 8/9months notice of average cost, which allows parents to make weekly contributions. We are able as a school to offer financial support when required.

Eating at school

Now that free meals are available to P1 – P5, we estimate that approximately 80 % of pupils who are eligible for 'Free School Meals' take up their entitlement. In order to increase this percentage, we share the information on how to check if you are entitled to Free School Meals in both our handbook and the website.

Fun Events

St Hilary's Primary recognise that events planned for enjoyment can actually put added pressure on families. Our Parent Council organise Fun Events throughout the school year (although this year has been only activities that happen in class). 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.

On fundraising days there is an optional £1 donation. This money will be used to support families in the payment of 'panto' and 'trips' when required. All children take part in our fundraising events regardless of their donation.

School Clubs

At present, we have 3 afterschool clubs running – Netball, Basketball and Football. Our Active Schools team also deliver a lunchtime clubs on a Thursday.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is available to all children from 8:15 – 8:45

This statement will be reviewed in June 2024.