



St John Ogilvie High School

Cost of the School Day Policy

Parents and Carers/Pupils

Over the past few months, we have been consulting with parents and carers, teaching and support staff and pupils, to create our Cost of the School Day policy. Using guidance from the Child Poverty Action Group, we have identified key areas that we believe we are addressing, or can continue to address, in a bid to remove financial barriers to learning for our pupils.



Principles of Intent

At St John Ogilvie High School, we recognise the need to reduce the Cost of the School Day for all of our pupils and in particular for those who are already experiencing poverty.

We believe that financial circumstances should not be a barrier to learning and with our Cost of the School Day policy, we will take action to remove financial obstacles to achievement with a focus on -

Support with costs and resources:

- Providing all children with the learning tools they need for the curriculum, at home or at school

Supporting pupil wellbeing:

- Implementing poverty aware approaches, policies and practices throughout our school

We recognise that this is a living policy document, one that particularly during 2021, needs to be flexible to the changing circumstances which our young people and their families are facing. We hope that we can highlight ways that St John Ogilvie is acting to help removed financial barriers now, and what we hope to do in the future. Any questions – please email Mrs Galloway PT Equity - gw07gallowayleigh@glow.sch.uk

Area of Focus	Action
1 Day trips	Staff do their best to ensure that day trip costs are not prohibitive. Where cost may be a barrier, staff will be encouraged to look at offering a variety of ways of paying. Often school funds are used to address the cost of transport which can at times be the costliest aspect of a trip.
2 Foreign trips	Staff organising foreign trips will continue to monitor the costs to ensure that these trips are as accessible to as many pupils as possible. They will continue to work with payment plans and look at ways that pupils could be helped with hidden costs of trips, eg clothes and toiletries.
3 Extra curricular	These activities offer fantastic opportunities for our pupils. We try to offer extra-curricular activities where costs are not a barrier. We recognise that some activities require additional equipment or payment for transport. Staff monitor this and utilise a variety of methods to help support pupils in this area. Our school photographs are taken in-house in order to keep costs to a minimum.
4 Curricular costs	We are working hard to ensure that no child should be facing financial barriers within their subjects. Materials, such as pens, pencils, paper and jotters are provided for pupils. Stationery packs are also available for those pupils who might require them. Printing can be carried out in the school library. Staff in practical subjects are regularly reviewing costs, and pupils who receive FSM receive targeted support in those subject areas. Every subject has undertaken an audit of how the COTSD can impact pupils in their subjects particularly.
5 Uniform	Parents and pupils are aware of our school uniform policy and we are delighted to see the green blazers worn with pride. We provide new items of uniform, including blazers, where there is a need. We also have a uniform recycling scheme

	<p>where preloved items can be donated to the school. These are laundered and available to pupils and families throughout the year. We have piloted a blazer hire scheme with our prefects and hope to continue this next session. We have been providing winter clothing packs for families at the start of 2021 as well as utilising SLC's winter jacket scheme. We hope to build on this by raising awareness through the school twitter page and continue to have our uniform stall available to parents at parents' nights.</p> <p>It is our intention to purchase a JOHS PE top for every P7 coming to the school in August 2021.</p> <p>In addition there are plans to provide uniform vouchers for those families who may benefit, in conjunction with Scotcrest, our uniform suppliers.</p>
<p>6 Fun events</p>	<p>We recognise the importance of fun events and charity events to our school community. We aim to give notice of these events to families via the school newsletter and twitter page. We aim to keep costs as low as we can and to look for donations from pupils based on what they can give. Departments will work together to spread out these events over the course of the calendar year.</p>
<p>7 Home Learning</p>	<p>Many pupils have been able to access chromebooks to support their home learning, along with wifi dongles. We have also provided stationery for pupils to collect should this be required as well as access to other school equipment. Teachers have had regular live lessons with pupils to ensure home learning is on track, while a number of pupils receive one to one support via the Support for Learning department. The SLT, PS and PT PEF teachers are in regular contact with parents to support them with home learning and Miss Ferguson has headed up the home learning programme within the school over the last year.</p> <p>Our school librarian is also involved in supporting pupils with their reading at home and has a number of activities planned over the year to engage young people with reading. We have book tokens that we hope to use to support particularly some of our more able pupils who may struggle to buy books of their own – as part of a reading group to be launched at the start of the new year.</p>

8 Eating at school	All pupils are encouraged to access the school canteen, where food is available throughout the day. We hope to pilot a breakfast club in the future where pupils could access a healthy breakfast to ensure a good start to the day.
9 Personal items	Pupils have access to sanitary products in the girls toilets. We are working on ways to provide other toiletries to pupils in a practical way, to ensure dignity and to help to support health and wellbeing. We will promote this in PSE classes.

Ongoing COTSD actions

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full departmental audit of the ways that subjects recognise COTSD issues and principles within their lessons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with parents, pupils, support and teaching staff on the issues related to a COTSD policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with S1 COTSD committee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff inservice training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with Child Poverty Action Group on the formulating of the school policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School policy linked to HGIOS indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COTSD imbedded in our School Improvement Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff encouraged to bid for funding relating to COTSD initiatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COTSD lessons delivered in PSE and Modern Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant staff liaison between PS and PT PEF's to support our COTSD policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated staff committee working on COTSD policy formation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive IT provision and support for pupils
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness of FSM and other ways that families can receive support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated PT's working to address issues relating to the COTSD for pupils as part of their school remit

Next Steps

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to raise awareness amongst staff of the COTSD policy |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with the S1 COTSD policy group to create literature for classrooms - to increase pupil understanding of the COTSD |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage parents and carers who may find themselves struggling with COTSD related issues, to contact their child's PS teacher or the relevant PEF PT's |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to raise awareness of our policy to help pupils become more familiar with how it can help to support their learning journey |