



St. John the Baptist RC Primary School

Cost of the School Day Action Plan 2025-26

All staff are aware of the effects of poverty and how it impacts our children and their families. We have measures in place to support families with school-related costs and to ensure that all children can participate fully in learning. Our family calendar is sent out to all families at the beginning of the school year and includes details of any costs to families.

Uniform

Universal: Our school uniform consists of a polo shirt, sweatshirt, shirt and tie. Both plain and embroidered items are acceptable. Footwear includes black indoor and outdoor shoes. For PE, any black shorts, leggings, or joggers, along with a white T-shirt or polo shirt, are acceptable. The school also provides a range of sports kits for various sporting festivals.

Targeted: We currently have a 'nearly new' school uniform rail located in our school foyer, offering a selection of pre-loved uniform items. We also refer families to the *School Clothing Bank West Lothian* for additional support. When needed, we provide new uniform items directly to families.

Travel

Universal: At St John the Baptist Primary School, the majority of our pupils live within walking distance. We consider transport costs for all school trips, which are significantly subsidised. After-school clubs are held on-site to ensure easy access and to minimise additional travel requirements.

Targeted: The school subsidises or covers the cost of external after-school clubs for targeted pupils and families. Staff are available to support families who need help completing transport applications.

Positive Relationships

Universal: Uniform is promoted to reduce peer pressure related to branded and fashionable clothing. Equity, equality, and positive relationships are the core values that shape the ethos of our school. (*Friendship is one of our school values.*) We provide both whole-school and targeted nurture approaches to support the development of social skills for all pupils.

Targeted: Staff are trained in trauma sensitive and restorative practice.

Learning

Universal: Stationery is provided for all classes and is accessible at all times. There are options for borrowing resources to support learning, such as devices, books, dictionaries, calculators, etc. We promote a 'bring your own device' approach for technology and also provide access to digital technologies within the school. We engage with our pupils and families to ensure that our Participatory Budget is spent in ways that enhance their experience of school.

Targeted: Regular planning meetings, Individual Education Plans, and learning reviews are held and monitored consistently to support our most vulnerable pupils.

School Trips

Universal: We plan school trips in advance to ensure families are notified in a timely manner. Parents and carers are consulted to help keep costs down. Where appropriate, we aim to choose locations that require minimal transport to reduce trip expenses, while still offering a variety of experiences and destinations. All senior pupils have the opportunity to attend residential experiences. We encourage pupils to join the Credit Union from Primary 1 to help save for these opportunities. Our Parent Council and other partners fundraise to support the cost of residentials and bus transport. We provide an annual overview of estimated costs and planned trips each year.

Targeted: Support is available for families to pay for trips over time. Part-funded or fully funded places on residential trips are offered to families when needed, ensuring that all children have the opportunity to attend if they wish. School staff support families sensitively and signpost them to financial assistance when

required. We work closely with our parish and the local Society of St Vincent de Paul to provide additional support.

Eating at School

Universal: We promote our Free Breakfast Club and Free School Meals, sharing information with all parents throughout the year via a range of communication methods. To encourage attendance at Breakfast Club, we offer an Active Breakfast Club from Monday to Thursday. We encourage parents to pre-order hot meals for their children using iPay. Cashless catering helps reduce stigma. Our Parent Council and other partners fundraise to provide snacks for pantomimes, sports activities, and other events.

Targeted: We offer and provide snacks or breakfast for any child who requires it outside of Breakfast Club hours. All children arriving after Breakfast Club are offered a 'second breakfast' to help reduce stigma. Additional food for snacks is funded through our school fund, which is usually raised through school events.

School Clubs

Universal: All in-school organised after-school clubs are currently run free of charge.

Targeted: Our staff team actively encourages and supports families to attend after-school clubs and activities. When clubs involve a fee—such as those run through Active Schools—pupils affected by poverty are not required to pay. Where possible, we aim to cover these costs through the school fund.

Home Learning

Universal: We have revised our school homework policy to focus on life skills and family learning. Staff are aware of pupils' ability to access online resources to complete assigned tasks. There is increased staff confidence, skill, and knowledge in the use of online learning platforms. A wider range and number of online resources are now available to support learning at school, at home, and within families.

Targeted: Pupils have the option to complete tasks online or on paper. Online tools are provided where requested.