



St John Ogilvie PS and Woodlands ELC

2024-25



Cost of the School Day Commitment

At St John Ogilvie PS and Woodlands ELC, we recognise the need to reduce the cost of the school for all of our pupils, especially those already experiencing or impacted by poverty. We examine the cost of the school day through a range of initiatives and interventions to ensure inclusion and equity for all in our learning community.

School Uniform



Universal

Our school uniform days are split into traditional and active uniform, for PE days as shown in the table below:

School Uniform	Active School Uniform (PE days)
Royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan with or without badge	Royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan with or without badge
Black/navy/grey trousers/skirt/pinafore/smart shorts	Black jogging bottoms or leggings
Royal blue or yellow polo shirt with or without badge	Royal blue or yellow polo shirt with or without badge
White shirt or polo shirt	White polo shirt
Blue checked summer dress	Black or white plain t-shirt
Black school shoes or boots	Black or white trainers

Although our uniform is available to purchase with the school badge, this is not a requirement and can be purchased from a retail outlet of parent choosing. All pupils have the option to wear a white shirt and school tie if they want to.

Targeted

We are able to give uniform to families who require support to provide this using our annual uniform allowance. This includes PE/Outdoor kit. We have a recycled uniform bank which is available to parents/carers throughout the school session. We also put this out at family events. There is no cost for this. We access the West Lothian School Bank when appropriate and are approved referrers. We are able to provide white shirts and ties for pupils attending special events. We provide school strips/sports tops for those participating in events to represent the school. Laundry is done by school staff. Each pupil is given their P7 hoodie as a gift from the school.

Travelling to School



Universal

A small number of children travel to school in transport provided by the local authority. The bus stop is around a five-minute walk from the school. PSW staff collect and return the children directly to and from the bus stop and admin staff liaise with the Bus Company and transport to resolve any issues.

Targeted

School staff support those requiring assistance to complete transport applications. We provide tickets (in the short term) for those who have not qualified for free travel, who live within our catchment, but are having difficulty in paying the ticket price for each journey.

Learning at School



Universal

Pupils at St John Ogilvie PS and Woodlands ELC do not pay for any core learning activity. Stationery is provided and pupils do not need to bring their own equipment. This is shared with parents regularly via our communication channels. Pupils are able to borrow equipment to support learning e.g. calculators, dictionaries and IT equipment. We provide a Homework Club when possible during the session.

Targeted

Reviews are held regularly to provide interventions and targeted support for those pupils who need additional support with their learning. This is continually monitored and changes made where required. In order to reduce the learning gap between our most and least disadvantaged learners, an additional 0.5 teaching resource commitment is provided to learners within quintile 1 who have been identified as not on track in core learning areas.

Friendships at School



Universal

We work with all of our school stakeholders to promote our rules of Ready, Respectful and Safe and have a consistent approach for all staff in supporting this. We teach our pupils about poverty related issues through our RE and Health and Wellbeing curriculum. This is underpinned by our commitment to Children's Rights which is embedded in our values and culture. We gather the views of our families on the cost of the school day through the Parent Council and PFA and look to involve them in decision making around this. The wearing of our affordable school uniform is encouraged to negate any peer pressure around branded and fashion clothing.

Targeted

We are a nurturing school and we provide nurture support for social skills development. This includes targeted groups for social and emotional support using the Emotion Works framework and Zones of Regulation for which all staff, including PSWs are trained. We run outdoor nurture and problem solving groups for our upper school pupils. Resources required for this are purchased or provided for by the school.

School Trips



Universal

Our trips are planned each year in relation to learning opportunities and topics. We set a maximum cost per trip and ask staff to plan within this limit. We subsidise the cost of the trip where appropriate to keep inside the limit. All pupils have the opportunity to attend a residential experience in P7. All trips and residential camps can be paid up through a payment card system. No pupil is excluded from a trip or residential experience due to cost.

Targeted

School staff are able to support our families and sign post them to financial help if and when required. Our admin staff have a very positive relationship with our parents to support them quickly and as required. We have a strong partnership with our local parish who often provide support of targeted families when requested by the school.

Eating at school



Universal

We operate a free breakfast club for all pupils and have around one hundred pupils attending although not all come to eat breakfast. We operate a cashless catering system and this alleviates any stigma that may be attached to pupils eligible for free school meals. We also operate a coloured ticket system for lunch trays. There is no difference between the tickets for free and paid for lunches. We regularly send out the link for FSM applications via GroupCall and on our school app. We have fruit available for children who do not have a snack.

Targeted

For those pupils who arrive late or have not had breakfast, our admin and PSW team ensure that they are fed. We have a number of children who have either a breakfast bag or a home snack bag made up which they collect from the office each day. Office staff assist parents and carers to complete FSM applications if required.



Home Learning

Universal

All pupils are encouraged to complete Home Learning tasks either weekly or monthly. Tasks are distributed via Seesaw and Teams however, pupils have the option to complete these in a jotter and staff can provide a paper copy if required. Pupils are welcome to take home stationery or other resources if needed to complete tasks.

Targeted

We provide support for homework tasks where necessary and often through the use of a homework club. We provide appropriate resources to allow pupils to complete tasks at home. This includes the loan of a suitable device if required.

After school clubs



Universal

We offer a wide range of after school clubs to promote the development of skills for learning, life and work as well as promoting wider achievement. There is no charge for many of the clubs, and we work with our partner agencies that provide any clubs, to keep the cost as low as possible. We do not exclude any pupil from attending due to being unable to pay. This is provided for by the PFA or PEF planning.

Targeted

Our staff signpost and encourage families to attend after school clubs. We track children's attendance at clubs and encourage those who are reluctant to attend. Our partner providers keep a number of free spaces open which are then offered to families who would benefit the most from these opportunities.

Fun and Charity Events



Universal

Where possible, we do not charge for fun events. Our Christmas parties and Fun Day costs are covered by the school. Our Christmas Panto for P1-4 and our Christmas discos for P5-7 are paid for by the PFA. Our P7 treat is also paid for by the PFA.

We currently fundraise through our PFA by holding a Halloween disco and Summer Fayre but understand that not all families are able to contribute. We do not have 'dress down days' which requires a cost to be paid due to the added burden on families. Initiatives such as World Book Day are supported by completing activities in school, rather than dressing up.

As a catholic school, we demonstrate our commitment to Catholic Social Teaching and therefore promote social justice and equality for all. As part of this, we support a small number of charities throughout the school year, mostly those which either support our local community such as River Kids or the WL Foodbank or those that support children in the third world such as Mary's Meal and SCIAF. Where possible, we do not ask for monetary contributions but rather items of food or toiletries. Where there is a monetary cost (for raffles, tombola etc.) we have a maximum of £1 per family to allow everyone to participate.

Targeted

We subsidise as many events as possible during the course of the session and discreetly provide payment or resources for those families who cannot contribute. No pupil is excluded from taking part for being unable to donate and no record of who has donated is kept.

