



Poverty Proofing Statement: Williamston Primary School 2022-2023



All our staff are aware of the effects of poverty and how it pertains to the context of our school and our young people.

Uniform: School uniform is polo shirt, sweat shirt, shirt and tie with plain unembroidered items acceptable school uniform. Any shorts/jogging trousers are accepted for PE with a plain t-shirt. We work in partnership with families in need of support to allocate uniform based on their specific needs. Uniform can be ordered online and we also hold a small stock in school, giving all new families joining the school mid-session school uniform for their start with us. We carefully consider our uniform supplier each year to ensure that we are providing low cost/durable uniform at a good price for our families. We have a selection of 'nearly new' uniform items which are made available to families. For families who need support we will provide this sensitively. We have a supply of outdoor clothing so that all children are comfortable when learning outdoors.

Travel: We give consideration to transport costs for all trips where walking is not an option. School leadership team may also use their own vehicles for small groups to ensure inclusion and reduce costs.

Resources: Classrooms have essential supplies such as pencils/calculators etc. to borrow throughout the school year to ensure that no child is disadvantaged. We also provide free access to our school supply of stationary items for all staff in order to meet the needs of the pupils.

Trips: We give consideration to all trips to ensure that costs are kept down. Free spaces on all residential trips are available for some young people in receipt of free school meals. We plan residential trips in advance and have saving options to spread the cost. We monitor the number of trips, costs and year groups/families and respond accordingly, using PEF for identified families. We raise awareness of the opportunities fund for residential/trips with families in the school.

Eating: We promote Free School Meals and share information for all parents about it at various times throughout the year. This is also highlighted through our school website. Cashless catering means that there is less stigma attached when children are ordering meals. We provide a free breakfast club each morning.

Clubs: The cost of clubs when able to run is carefully monitored, with a balance of free clubs and some with a small charge. Pupils in receipt of free school meals may access these free.

Digital Equity: We have provided a number of families with digital tools to enable access when required for learning at home.

Homework: Our approaches to homework ensure we have a flexible approach to meeting the needs of all families. Homework is generally set online with identified families supported with IT access and any other resources that they may not have at home during school time. We will not ask for any work to be printed at home.

Events (e.g. charity events, dress down days etc.): We ask for a donation as opposed to a flat £1 for any school event or dress down day. We limit the number of charity and other fundraising events and spread them throughout the year, with no more than two per school year. Where possible, we make some of our events free of charge.

Our school has information on our App of what money we will be asking for and when, such as residential, so parents can plan out their budget. Further information about support can be found via the following link:-

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/helpwithcosts>