

Cost of the School Day

We are very aware that many families in our community are finding the day-to-day costs of living really challenging. When children and young people cannot take part in opportunities because of cost, they miss out and feel excluded, and it is harder for them to learn, achieve and be happy at school.

Ensuring equal access to opportunities.

High costs to the school day can create barriers to participation and negative experiences for children. At Struthers we are taking simple and practical measures to minimise costs, reduce stigma and ensure that children and young people have equal access to opportunities at school.

Minimising costs and reducing pressure:

- We will limit the number of class outings which have a cost attached, to one per school year. Dates for trips will be given to parents well in advance with the option to use Parent Pay to make gradual payments.
- There will be no cost to children for Christmas or Hallowe'en activities.
- All lunchtime or after school clubs and activities will be free to all pupils.

At Struthers, we will ensure that **NO CHILD** misses out on any learning or wider achievement opportunity because of financial reasons.

3,505 children are living in poverty within South Ayrshire Council.
- July 2022



**Struthers Primary
School**



south
AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL





Charity Events at Struthers

As a Rights Respecting School, we will recognise different charities at different points throughout the year. There will be no obligatory donations required of families on these occasions.

Struthers will support local charity the Micah Project throughout the year.



- Stationery will be provided by the school so that each child has the resources they need to learn.
- When it is someone's birthday, the school will gift a "birthday pencil" and sticker to celebrate.
- We will look at new and fun ways to celebrate special days rather than having non-uniform days or events where parents may feel pressure to buy merchandise.
- At the end of term and at Christmas, there is no expectation to buy class teachers gifts.
- Staff will not buy class gifts but instead use a whole class approach of a movie/treat afternoon.
- We will not have "show and tell" sessions in class and pupils will be discouraged from bringing toys and items from home.
- Our Fundraising group will organise discos for all pupils to enjoy with no mandatory cost, only a donation of what is manageable for families.



Where ANY family is finding things difficult, we would encourage them to speak with a member of SLT in complete confidence. As a school, we are keen and willing to assist where we possibly can. We encourage all parents to make use of the online payment system which provides the facility for parents to make payments for any school activities electronically. This takes away the need for parents to have cash to hand. Should you require further information at this stage, or would like to have a more in depth chat about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

