

School Trips

Over the course of the school year, we will arrange events outside of school that we feel will enrich a pupil's school and life experience. School trips can be difficult for some families to afford. Missing trips means that children miss fun, new experiences and personal development and feel left out and families can be embarrassed about asking for financial help. We aim to reduce costs of 'local trips' by subsidising with school funds or with support from Friends of Spittal - Parent Council. For more costly trips we will give maximum advance notice and will put a staged payment plan in place. Families who need support are encouraged to speak to the school. **No child** will ever not be given the opportunity due to financial restraints.

Home Learning

Although most home learning tasks have little or no costs, there are exceptions that can create difficulties for children from some families e.g. craft projects and homework that requires computers, online access, software and printers.

We will be offering:

- **Family Homework Club**
- **Online and printer access in school if needed**
- **Range of Family Learning activities at no cost**
- **"Craft Bags" for any home learning projects which may require special resources.**

I would encourage parents/ carers to speak to the school if they have any specific concerns to allow us to identify areas to support pupil/ family engagement.

Fundraising Events

Special days, events and activities are a fun part of school life and often raise valuable funds. However, such events can create difficulties for some children due to lack of immediate funds, hidden costs and feeling embarrassed and marginalised if they are unable to take part.

All our fund-raising activities take place during the school day- we have one dedicated school fund-raising event in October where families contribute what they can. Non-uniform days, where we ask for a donation, usually £1, take place 3 to 4 times a session to raise funds for charity and school fund. **No child** will ever not be given the opportunity to participate in these events due to financial restraints.



THE COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY



Learning in School

Children in Spittal Primary do not need to pay for any core learning activity. Stationery - pens, pencils, jotters etc is provided for all children along with any other resources/ equipment required.

On the majority of occasions when we invite visiting specialists in to work with the children the funding for this will come from school budget, grants or support from Friends of Spittal - Parent Council.

Clothing grant and buying uniforms

Parents on certain benefits can access a clothing grant to help with school uniform costs. SLC grant is currently £50. Parents are directed to SLC website where there is information about entitlement to clothing grants and how to apply.

Other support available:

***School Uniform Swap Shop**

***Friends of Spittal - Parent Council**

Families who need support are encouraged to speak to the school. Uniform is available from our 2 named online suppliers. We do not insist on badged sweatshirts or polo shirts and these can be purchased from local supermarkets, etc.

School Clubs

We offer a range of lunchtime and after-school clubs, all of which are free or low cost. These clubs are a valuable resource for children, making new interests and experiences accessible to them. However, small costs can still stand in the way of participation.

If a pupil feels there is a reason that they cannot participate because of the lack of a resource/ equipment this should not prove a barrier to involvement and the pupil or parent should approach a member of staff and allow us to identify a solution.

Eating at School

Lack of food/poor nutrition are realities for some children. Food costs can be significant and receiving Free School Meals can help. However not every family entitled to free meals applies for them and not every child receiving free meals takes them.

Letters are issued to inform parents regarding information about entitlement to Free School Meals and how to apply. Info. is also available on school and SLC website. We also offer:

- **Free Breakfast Club**
- **Snacks/ fruit given on need basis**
- **Foodbank referral**