



Monmouth Cluster Anti-Poverty Strategy

Vision:

To support our families in tackling aspects of poverty by actively reducing costs related to school

How will we share the vision?

- ❖ Comms to parents/ carers/ school staff
- ❖ Agenda item/ sub-committee briefings and updates with Governing Bodies
- ❖ Publish on website

What needs to happen to make the vision real?

- ❖ Agreed, realistic actions
- ❖ Consistency in approach across the cluster schools
- ❖ Continued commitment to act

Identified Actions:

- Continue uniform review in all schools in line with WG guidance (WG23-17) with generic uniform choices, non-specific suppliers including elements of PE kit, branded items;
- Raise profile of pre-loved uniform access- through school, PTFA, freeschoolclothes.com ;
- Provide regular information to families about local/ county and national support mechanisms/ organisations through website, social media and newsletters;
- Reduce costs of residential trips in primaries through shorter visit duration and use of local centres who support FSM families;
- Reduce number of overseas trip offers at MCS;
- Meet with individual PTFA committees to ensure balance between social events and fundraising, ensuring a sensible number of events over a year;
- Access grant funding opportunities to support curriculum enrichment to minimise costs;
- Invite LA Support Team to attend relevant meetings/ engagement events to provide financial advice/ support to families;
- Continue commitment to develop free/low-cost experiences for our learners across primary schools linked to own community;
- Ensure trips are reasonably priced and do not happen too often across the school year and are balanced between year groups;
- For our rural schools, continue to develop ways of extending time allocations for curriculum provision such as swimming- longer sessions but less often to make cost savings for transport;
- Ensure cluster events are planned across the geography of primary schools and where possible, seek additional grant funding or share buses to support transport costs;
- Utilise authentic curriculum opportunities to develop pupil understanding of financial literacy and the impact of poverty;
- When celebrating charity events, schools are mindful of affordability and ensure themes are broad and inclusive and donations can be made anonymously via Parent Pay, reducing visible 'cash' in schools;
- Engage with families to ensure participation in curriculum activities and events so no pupil misses out;