



Loch Primary School Nursery Class

Cost of the School Day Position Statement

2022-2023



At Loch Primary School Nursery Class we pride ourselves as having a nurturing, happy, welcoming, inclusive, achieving and respectful school ethos. We always aim to ensure that all children, parents/carers, families, staff and visitors to our nursery feel welcomed and supported. Our school and nursery vision is 'TEAM LOCH - Together Everyone Achieves More; Learning Opportunities Create Happiness' and we promote the message that 'we are all in this together' so that all stakeholders feel a part of our nursery. We recognise the need to reduce the 'Cost of the School Day' for all of our children and this is always at the forefront of our planning. We examine the School Day through the following headings: Uniform, Travel, Learning, Friendships, School Trips, Eating at School and School Events. Detailed below are our aims to reduce the 'Cost of the School Day' for families.

Uniform

At present there is no uniform within our nursery. Children are encouraged to wear clothes which are comfortable and suitable for all activities. We encourage and greatly accept donations of clothing items that children may have grown out of that are in good condition for our nursery clothing box. Parents/carers are encouraged to talk to the nursery staff if they require support with clothing and we will do our best to help.

Travel

The majority of our children travel to nursery by car or by foot. We actively encourage walking, cycling or 'parking and striding' to nursery in order to minimise congestion.

Learning

Children at Loch Primary School Nursery Class do not need to pay for any core learning activity. Children are provided with all materials they require at nursery and home learning activities such as 'Book of the Month' are issued to families with all required resources included. A Lending Library is available for children to borrow a book to take home and donations of picture books that children no longer use are greatly appreciated. Families who require support with materials are encouraged to contact the nursery to discuss help available. Family learning opportunities are also planned to support families and attendance is encouraged.

Friendships

As a nurturing nursery, all of our children are included and our 'Vision, Values and Aims' promotes the very positive message of 'TEAM LOCH' where we all must work together to ensure everyone feels happy, healthy and nurtured within our nursery. Each child is allocated a keyworker group with an adult(s) and a group of peers. Group time provides positive

opportunities to develop friendships. All children have access to all areas within the nursery and are encouraged to build positive relationships with all of their peers. Our 'Bucket Filling' programme and our 'Promoting Positive Relationships Blueprint' actively encourages this. We ensure that any child or parent/carer experiencing poverty related bullying has a way of reporting this in confidence. Children will be encouraged to share any concerns during our daily nurture and Health and Wellbeing activities.

School Trips

Our nursery aims to offer a range of fun activities throughout the year, including parties, events, visitors in and trips out of nursery including within the local area and beyond. Any nursery outing is arranged in consultation with parents/carers and the cost of this is considered to ensure the involvement of all children. We aim to give as much notice and financial support as possible. Families are encouraged to contact the nursery if support is required.

Eating at School

All children attending a full-time placement at Loch PS Nursery Class are entitled to a healthy snack and a free school meal. The menu can be accessed via our school website or on the SLC website (<https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/nursery-lunch-menu>). Children also have the opportunity to participate in baking and other food related learning experiences during the nursery day which are all funded by the nursery.

School Events

At Loch Primary School Nursery Class we recognise that events planned for enjoyment can actually put added pressure on to families due to the cost. We currently look carefully at attendance and participation in these events in order to see if there are any poverty-related patterns that require action. As with trips, our fun events are planned by staff, children and parents/carers. No child will ever be excluded from an event due to financial restraints and we will always work with families to support this. Fundraising events are carefully planned throughout the session to ensure these do not add pressure to families. We understand that not all families are able to contribute and no family will be pressurised to do so. A nursery events calendar ensures that we are not asking too much of parents/carers at the one time.

We are very clear that the 'Cost of the School Day' is an area that requires constant vigilance. We continue to look for ways to reduce and remove costs as much as possible for families, including:

- Reducing/removing the cost of events by using our nursery funds.
- Providing services to support positive home-school links.
- Encouraging as much parental engagement as possible, promoting strong home-school links.
- Working with families to help raise attainment and achievement for all children.

