



Poverty Proofing Statement

At Netherhall School we endeavour to ensure that every student can access all aspects of their education. While it is clear that issues surrounding the ways to tackle poverty are society based, not just related to school, it is clear that we have our own part to play in working to lessen some of the issues faced by pupils and parents who are confronted with the often daily dilemmas of providing support for their child's school experience.

This statement is to share with you the ways Netherhall School hopes to ensure that all of our students can access the full range of experiences on offer by reducing or removing costs that are barriers to learning.

Learning in school and at home

- While we encourage pupils to be self-sufficient and prepared for lessons, we will provide any materials required to participate in any subject for example stationary and calculators.
- Where students are struggling with access to ICT at home, we will provide them with a device, laptop or iPAD, in order for them to be able to complete the necessary work.

Uniform

- Our uniform policy helps our pupils feel more included and allows our students to be a recognisable part of their community.
- We encourage our year 11 and 13 leavers, to donate their ties, jumpers and blazers so that they can be used by students who are struggling to buy uniform.
- Our attendance team have access to spare uniform to support students in need.
- Where a change has been made to PE kits existing pupil premium (PP) students have been offered free PE kit to replace the outgoing kit.

Meals

- Breakfast club, providing a free breakfast for any student who wants one, is available every day from 7:45 until 8:25.
- Free school meals – pupils are encouraged to use their allowance at break or lunch.

Trips and visits

We recognise that trips are an integral part of the school curriculum and can have a significant impact on pupils and therefore we want to guarantee that all pupils are able to access them. Our staff are committed to ensuring that all trips have educational value and we, as a school, will endeavour to make them available to all pupils.

- We have a variety of ways to help with the costs associated with trips, such as by spreading smaller payments over a longer period or by paying for part, or all, of it.
- Eligible families are encouraged to apply for funding through the Mary Grave Trust to cover part or all of the cost of a visit.



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School clubs

- A wide range of activities and learning opportunities are offered both at lunch and after school at no cost.

Events

- Fundraising events in our school, such as the Christmas jumper day, require a donation only if possible. We limit the number of these events and spread them throughout the year.

Personal care

- Sanitary products are always available from the main office and heads of year. Where necessary we make sure that pupils have a supply to cover holidays.

Access to financial entitlements and crisis support for families

- We make use of local organisations and charities, such as food banks, to help support family life. We work closely with our families to access support for identified needs.

Other support available from the local authority

For more information about what is available from Cumberland Council please go to the link below and it will sign post a range of options that might be able to help.

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-health/cost-living-support>

Local authorities have many schemes that you might be eligible for, including:

- The Holiday Activity and Food Programme for Cumberland Council is here <https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/holiday-activities-and-food-haf-programme> – this explains what access there is to food and activities over the school holidays. Note that if your child is eligible for free school meals (see above), they'll also qualify for this programme
- Help with transport to school is here <https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-transport>
- Help with uniform can be found here <https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers> However in school we do collect and redistribute all items of school uniform. If you would like to access to this please get in touch with your child's Head of Year at school.
- Help with mental health and wellbeing is here <https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-health/health-and-wellbeing-team>