

Removing Core Curriculum Charges

Core Curriculum:

The definition of 'core curriculum' is classroom-based activity within the eight core curriculum areas in the broad general education in primary and secondary schools, plus activity associated with preparation for SQA qualifications in the senior phase.

<https://www.gov.scot/news/music-tuition-and-core-curriculum-fees-removed/>

Aim:

To remove limitations on participation by children and young people whose families are not able to meet costs associated with core curriculum charges.

Funding:

ScotGov, Ministers and COSLA have set aside £6m of funding for the academic year 21/22 to support this policy. All schools will have the opportunity to access this funding to enable them to remove core curriculum charges.

This would include (but not limited to):

- Home Economics ingredients and materials
- All Art materials
- All materials required for design, manufacturing and technology subjects
- Scientific calculators for secondary pupils
- Theatre trips associated with SQA drama qualifications
- The purchase of recorders where this is required for a class-based learning experience in primary schools.
- Provision of specialist equipment to support classroom learning during themed weeks (e.g. STEM week)

This would not include:

- After-school clubs, incl. transport.
- School trips with limited educational outcome (consideration will be given to these at a later date as part of the manifesto commitment regarding ending charging for school trips for pupils experiencing disadvantage).
- School uniforms and PE kit *
- Access to devices *
- Optional music tuition *

*Covered under a separate manifesto commitment.



Here are some examples of core curriculum charges, which should be mitigated in schools:

- Homework diaries
- Calculators
- Jotters
- Art materials
- Stationery
- Woodwork or other technical projects
- Tupperware boxes for home economics
- Swimming

