

THE COST OF

THE SCHOOL DAY

CALENDAR

2021/22



THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Ideas from other schools - A rural primary school's approach to celebrating birthdays:

Pupils told us that the school has a birthday board where every child's birthday is displayed. On each child's birthday at the end of the day, everyone lines up and sings happy birthday, and the child receives a card signed by everyone and a book. If someone's birthday falls over the weekend or during a school holiday, then their birthday is celebrated on a different day so no one misses out.

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 Period products awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pupils missing school days due to not being able to afford sanitary products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Are free period products available to pupils and in a location where they can access them without needing to ask a member of staff?
 Homework Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Homework that requires a suitable place to work, resources from home or digital access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ What resources are required for pupils to complete their homework and what support is available for those who may not have these resources at home? Should resources be required to carry out homework tasks or could tasks be set that don't require resources to ensure everyone can part? ■ How do you know if all of your students have a suitable space at home to complete their homework?
 School Dinners Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Children able to identify those who are eligible for FSMs ■ Children don't take up their free school meal entitlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Can students at your school identify which of their peers are in receipt of free school meals? ■ What do pupils think of their school lunch experience? ■ How do you collect insight on what pupils think of lunchtime at your school? ■ Do pupils on free school meals have the same school food options as their peers including at break times? ■ Do all pupils take up their free school meal entitlement? Do all pupils have access to the same food choices and portion sizes regardless of whether they are on FSM or not?
 Celebrations Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cost of craft projects ■ Cost of bringing in specific items from home like food or clothing (e.g. for birthdays) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ While celebrating different cultural and religious events can be hugely valuable, are you ensuring that this is accessible to all pupils and doesn't place additional financial strain on families? ■ Are there ways for your school to celebrate pupils' birthdays at no cost to families?
 Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Equipment needed for exams including stationery and calculators ■ Cost of revision guides and revision materials ■ Pupils feeling under pressure in relation to their exams ■ Pupils missing breakfast before the tests ■ Cost of revision guides and revision materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ What do students need for exams and what support is available? ■ How is support advertised to students and families? ■ How can you check in with pupils during this week? What will you look out for to identify any pupils who are finding this time more challenging? ■ How can your school provide all pupils with something to eat before their exams to make sure those who have missed breakfast are not hungry during the tests?
 Music Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cost of instrument or vocal tuition ■ Instrument to practice at home ■ Suitable space to practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ What support is available for instrument tuition? ■ How is support communicated to students and families? ■ When and how can students make use of practice space in school?
 School Census Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dates vary across nations ■ Families missing out on free school meals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How often are families reminded about free school meals? ■ Do you know which students are not taking up their free school meal entitlement? ■ How are families supported with applying for free school meals?
 Art /Textiles Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cost of additional resources or materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do students need any additional materials for arts exams? What materials are available in school?



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point

SEPTEMBER 2021

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 Return to school (England and Wales)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils asked questions such as 'Where did you go on holiday?', 'What did you do during the holiday?' or 'write a diary entry about what you did over the summer' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What questions and activities can you ask to get to know more about children that aren't focussed on their family and home experiences?
 Autumn Fayre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entry fee Expense of stalls/games Food and refreshment costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What costs are associated with attending the school fayre and are there any free activities? How much would it cost for a family with multiple children? How can you ensure that all children feel the same sense of involvement and engagement regardless of whether they have money or not?
 Roald Dahl Day 13 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dressing up as Roald Dahl characters Needing to purchase a book to write a book review Creating book scenes in boxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is Roald Dahl Day celebrated in your school? What resources are required and is there a cost associated? Could the work pupils do only be based around books that are available in school?
 Jeans for Genes Day 13 to 19 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monetary donation Being asked to wear jeans to school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is attendance on this date? Do all children take part? In what ways can children who do not have suitable clothing be involved in this day? Could the focus be on raising awareness of the cause instead of donations?
 MacMillan: World's Biggest Coffee Morning 24 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cakes and bakes brought in from home Cakes and bakes sold in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will you involve all children and families in this event, including those who may not be able to contribute a cake or make a donation?
 Options Decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific subject resource and equipment cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What information do you give to students and families to help them decide on course options? When are families made aware of any subject costs or equipment that is needed?

Ideas from other schools - A city primary school takes action to reduce the cost of residential trips:

The school subsidises residential trips and has made grant applications to bring the cost of residential trips down to an amount that is much more affordable for families on low incomes. Parents are given plenty of notice and can pay in instalments so that they do not struggle with their finances.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13  Roald Dahl Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24  MacMillan: World's Biggest Coffee Morning	25	26
27	28	29	30			



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point

OCTOBER 2021

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 <p>Challenge Poverty Week 4 – 10 October (Scotland) 11 – 17 October (England and Wales)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Could you use this opportunity to tackle attitudes and assumptions about poverty? ■ England and Wales: challengepoverty.co.uk ■ Scotland: challengepoverty.net ■ London: londonchallengepovertyweek.org.uk
 <p>Harvest Festival</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A requirement to bring in food bank donations ■ Monetary donations ■ Pupils being able to identify who has donated and how much 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How can you collect donations so that pupils are not able to identify who has and has not made a contribution?
 <p>Show Racism the Red Card's Wear Red Day 22 October</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wearing red clothes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How will you ensure that the focus of the day is on anti-racism and the important issues that the charity tackles, rather than on dressing up? ■ Are there alternatives to wearing red clothes, such as providing red ribbons or badges for all pupils to wear?
 <p>Halloween 31 October</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Entry fee to school Halloween disco ■ Additional spending money for disco ■ Halloween costumes for disco or non-uniform day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How can you utilise resources in school for Halloween celebrations so that families do not have to bring in items from home or wear certain items to take part? ■ How much will it cost families to attend the disco and how can you reduce these costs?
 <p>End of autumn holiday or half-term and return to school October / November</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pupils asked questions such as 'Where did you go on holiday?', 'What did you do during the holiday?' or 'write a diary entry about what you did during half-term' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Could you ask alternative questions and writing tasks that focus on activities in school rather than home?

Ideas from other schools - A rural primary school's approach to non-uniform 'colour days':

The school council decided on red as the colour to wear for Red Nose Day and St David's Day because the school uniform is already red. This way, every pupil was able participate and wear any red item they wished, including their school cardie or jumper.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7  England autumn census day	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22  Show Racism the Red Card's Wear Red Day	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31  Halloween



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point

NOVEMBER 2021

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 Diwali 4 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children encouraged to dress up in traditional costume for a Diwali party Diwali-themed homework requiring extra resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could any Diwali activities requiring resources be done at school, with resources provided in class? If you're having a Diwali party, could the focus be on learning dances and stories rather than wearing traditional costumes?
 Bonfire Night 5 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entry fee to school bonfire and fireworks display Additional spending money for drinks, food, glow sticks and sparklers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the total cost for families to attend this event and how can the costs be reduced? Are there any additional costs families will face when they attend e.g. drinks or sparklers? Can these be communicated when the event is advertised? Can any costs be covered by donations rather than an entry fee?
 Royal British Legion: Remembrance Day 11 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merchandise sold at school on behalf of charity e.g. poppies, wrist bands, pin badges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will you ensure that all children have the opportunity to take home a piece of merchandise even if they cannot donate? Does money need to be collected in school or could online fundraising be utilised? Could the focus be on raising awareness of the cause instead of donations?
 BBC Children in Need 19 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having to wear something with spots, a Pudsey eye patch or Children in Need accessories Merchandise sold at school (e.g. Pudsey eye patches, deely boppers, wrist bands, pin badges) Bake sales 	
 Anti-bullying week 15 – 19 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of understanding of what bullying is Bullying taking place based on material possessions Pupils not knowing what to do if they are being bullied and who they can talk to about it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some schools use anti-bullying week to raise awareness around income-related bullying, and explore the impact that poverty has on children and families. How do you communicate your bullying policy with pupils and families? How often is it shared?
 St Andrew's Day 30 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils asked to wear traditional national attire (kilt or something tartan) Paying money for a non-uniform/ dress-up day Paid entry to school ceilidhs or dances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is it necessary to ask pupils to wear traditional attire to celebrate this event? Could celebrations and ceilidh dances be scheduled during the school day so that all children can take part? Could dress-up days and after-school events be free or donation-based?

Ideas from other schools - A primary school's approach to school photography:

The school holds St David's Day activities that have no extra costs for pupils and invites the local paper to come and take photos. Photos from all the primary schools in the area are published as a supplement in the local paper, which only costs 80p. At Christmas, the school takes class photos and the PTA sells copies for £2, with the option to save digital versions of photos from the class blog for free so parents can share photos with their family at no cost.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4  Diwali	5  Bonfire Night	6	7
8	9	10	11  Royal British Legion: Remembrance Day	12	13	14
15  Anti-bullying week	16	17	18	19  BBC Children in Need	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30  St Andrew's Day					

									
School event	Holiday	Charity	Theme day or week	Cultural or religious event	GB-wide event	Scottish event	Welsh event	English event	Thinking point

DECEMBER 2021

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 Gift giving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils and staff exchanging Christmas gifts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If children and families wish to show their appreciation to school staff how can this be facilitated without gift giving?
 School Photographs: Individual and sibling photographs for Christmas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photographs are taken of every pupil, even if families have no intention of purchasing them Pupils can identify who has and has not purchased photographs because of the way they are given out in class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can you ensure that attention is not drawn to children and families who do not purchase school photographs? Are there resources in school which could be used to ensure that all children have a school photograph?
 Christmas Fayre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entry fee Expense of stalls, games or grotto Food and refreshment costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What costs are associated with attending the fayre and are there any free activities? Do you know which families miss out on these events and the reasons why?
 Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day 10 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wearing a Christmas jumper Monetary donation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Might children in your school feel pressured, isolated or stigmatised if they don't have an appropriate jumper and are there alternative ways of marking this day? How will you ensure that children know about the work Save the Children do?
 Christmas Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families asked to provide costumes and props Tickets for sale for the event Hidden cost of refreshments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the total costs for families related to the school performance including costumes and props? How can these costs be reduced or subsidised so that all families are able to attend? Can any costs be covered by donations rather than having an entry fee?
 Christmas Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children asked to contribute food and drink to share Party clothes worn in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What can be utilised in school for Christmas parties rather than asking children to bring in items from home? Can the school catering team support the provision of party food? In a busy month, with lots of additional costs- how much notice are families given?

Ideas from other schools – An eco-friendly primary school's solution to Christmas Jumper Day:

The school organised a 'swap shop' with pre-owned and preloved Christmas jumpers. They linked the activity to some topics that pupils had been learning about, including sustainability and the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling. The swap shop was promoted as being good for the environment and for saving money at a time of increased costs. They invited parents to hand in any Christmas jumpers that were in good condition but no longer fit, and encouraged all children to choose from the swap shop jumpers.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10  Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26
27 Bank holiday (Christmas day substitute)	28 Bank holiday (Boxing Day substitute)	29	30	31		



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point

JANUARY 2022

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 End of Christmas holidays and return to school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils asked questions about their home experiences, including what they got for Christmas and what they did. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What questions and activities can you ask to get to know more about children that aren't focussed on their family and home experiences?
 UCAS applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of submitting application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have you identified which students may find the application charge more difficult? Are students given enough notice about the application cost?
 Burns Night 25 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils are asked to wear traditional national attire (kilt or something tartan) and attend traditional haggis suppers. Families asked to pay to attend a Burns performance of song and poetry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instead of asking pupils to wear traditional attire, could you celebrate Burns night by focusing on learning songs and poetry? How can you ensure that all families are able to take part? Are there ways of reducing costs by connecting with other local businesses and organisations?

Ideas from other schools - A city primary school's approach to home learning:

The school worked with local organisations and charities to provide pupils with devices they needed for home learning. Pupils were also given the opportunity to work on paper if they had a preference for this type of learning or if their IT skills needed further development.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3 Bank holiday (New year's day substitute)	4 Bank holiday (Scotland) (2nd January substitute)	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25  Burns Night	26	27	28	29	30
31						



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point

FEBRUARY 2022

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 LGBTQ+ History Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merchandise available to be purchased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will you mark this awareness month in school and ensure that all students are able to participate? What resources do you have in school that students can use to make their own items to show their support (e.g. rainbow badges)?
 World Cancer Day 4 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cakes and bakes being brought in from home Cakes and bakes being sold in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could the focus of this day and activities in school be centred on awareness raising rather than fundraising? Could families be directed to online donation points rather than bringing money in to school?
 Dydd Miwsig Cymru (Welsh Language Music Day) 5 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home learning that requires online access can be difficult for pupils who don't have suitable devices or connectivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What offline activities can you do in school for this date that all children can take part in?
 Fairtrade Fortnight 21 February to 6 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merchandise sold in school Children setting up their own enterprise projects including buying products from each other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can your children develop their entrepreneurial skills without asking other children and families for money? Are there other outlets or organisations that pupils can engage with if they are selling products? Can you run any free events or taster sessions that all children can take part in? Are there any ways of including the catering team in this event so that all pupils who usually have school lunch can take part in linked activities?
 Post-16 applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of transport for college or sixth form interviews Internet access to complete online applications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the process for students applying to post-16 providers and are there any costs? How does your school support students to complete post-16 applications?

Ideas from other schools – A rural primary school's approach to celebrating special occasions:

During school closures in 2021, Mother's Day Craft Packs were sent out to pupils so that they could create cards for their mums. Parcels were delivered in all weather across the estate so that no children missed out. This was also done for Valentine's Day.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4  World Cancer Day	5  Dydd Miwsig Cymru (Welsh Language Music Day)	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21  Fairtrade Fortnight	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point

MARCH 2022

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 St. David's Day 1 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of purchasing national dress or rugby shirts Making Welsh food at home and bringing it to school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could the focus be on raising awareness of the special day and what it means to be Welsh, rather than on dressing up? What activities with resources can you provide for all pupils in school?
 World Book Day 3 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children are asked to dress up in themed costumes Bringing in books from home Taking photographs of themselves reading in unusual places to be displayed in school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a busy month with lots of charity days, which will be fundraising days and which will be awareness-raising days? How can you mark this date without asking children to bring in things from home? What activities can you organise that will be a part of the school day for all children?
 Red Nose Day 18 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monetary donation Red noses and other merchandise sold in schools Non-uniform day or other fundraising events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will donations be discreetly collected so that attention is not drawn to any pupils who do not make a contribution? What activities for this date can you organise which all children can take part in? How will you ensure that pupils know about the work that Comic Relief does?
 Purple Day (Epilepsy Awareness) 26 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monetary donation Wearing of non-uniform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What school arts and craft resources can you make use of to ensure that all children are able to take part? Do you know if any pupils avoid school on days where they wear non-uniform or are asked for donations?
 Mother's Day 27 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events held with entry fees Contributions towards the cost of materials for gift and card making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can you ensure that all children get the opportunity to take home something for this date? Are there any ways of making events free or reduced price so that all families are able to attend? Who should families speak to at your school if cost will be a barrier to them attending and how do you communicate this?

Ideas from other schools - A primary school's solution to World Book Day:

The school set up two bell-style reading tents during the week leading up to World Book Day, stocked with lots of exciting titles for children to dip into during break time and lunch hour. Inside the tents there was plenty of room to get comfy on cushions and hang out with friends while a roster of specially invited guests (parents!) hosted special reading sessions. At the end of the week, the school organised a special book swap, open to everyone. Pupils didn't have to bring a book to swap – it was open to all to come along and find something new to enjoy.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1  St. David's Day	2	3  World Book Day	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18  Red Nose Day	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26  Purple Day (Epilepsy Awareness)	27  Mother's Day
28	29	30	31			



APRIL 2022

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 Easter Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter egg hunts and Easter Fayres with entry fee Easter parade with homemade bonnets and baskets Easter egg decorating and Easter scene creating Easter colouring competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could your school make sure Easter activities are accessible to all students by providing the resources they will need to take part? How can you involve families in Easter activities?
 Work Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of transport Cost of uniform, clothing or equipment Missing out on free school meals when out of school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will free schools meals be provided to students while they are on work experience placements? What do students need for work experience and how much will this cost? What expectations do you as a school have for employers covering costs associated with their work placement?
 Ramadan Around 2 April to 1 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fasting students not getting their free school meal entitlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you ensuring all eligible pupils still get their free school meal entitlement in a way that fits in with their religious practices? Do you know how much 'unspent' free school meal money there is and how it is used?
 Enterprise Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils making money by selling items or providing a service to other pupils and their parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there ways of involving the wider community in the enterprise project rather than it taking place exclusively in school? Who else within your local community would be interested in purchasing products made by your students?

Ideas from other schools – A primary school's approach to charity fundraising events:

The school does not sell any charity merchandise or promotional materials. Instead, staff focus on activities that all pupils can participate in, without the financial cost – for example, a Lolathon (that's a Welsh joke-telling competition!) for Red Nose Day, craft workshops, quizzes or group exercise activities to raise awareness for the cause. The school then promotes a Justgiving link so that donations are voluntary and anonymous.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2  Start of Ramadan	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Good Friday bank holiday	16	17  Easter Sunday
18 Easter Monday bank holiday (England and Wales)	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point

MAY 2022

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 Eid al-Fitr Around 2-3 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children asked to bring in food and drinks to share with their friends for a Eid party Parents bringing in home-cooked dishes for a Eid party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eid al-Fitr, the biggest Muslim festival of the year, marks the end of the month of Ramadan, and one of the ways it is celebrated is by spending time together and sharing food. Are you ensuring your communications with children and parents about Eid state that any such contributions are entirely voluntary? If food is being shared at school, can all donations be dropped off at a central location so pupils cannot identify who has and who has not contributed?
 Children's Book Week No set dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Books and bookmarks for sale in school Book fairs visited by classes during the school day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there any national or local partners you can work with to provide families with free or reduced price books? Might parents and children feel under pressure to attend and purchase something from the book fair? How can this pressure be reduced?
 NSPCC Number Day Possibly held in May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children in number-themed non-uniform can face stigma from peers around branding Children asked to make a donation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can you link events and activities for this day to your curriculum so that all children are involved? In what ways can you celebrate children's achievements, knowledge and skills in maths on this date?
 Diwrnod Seren a Sbarc (Seren and Sbarc Day)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-uniform day Dressing up as superheroes Dressing in traditional Welsh colours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In what ways can you raise awareness of the Starter Iaith (Welsh Charter) and promote a strong Welsh ethos without a cost for families? Are there school arts and crafts resources you can use to ensure that all children are able to take part in the occasion, rather than focusing on dressing up?
 Urdd Eisteddfod Performances 30 May to 3 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance outfit Accommodation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have you communicated to families what support may be available from school, including for travel? Does your school monitor the attendance at this performance to determine to what extent costs may be a barrier? Can pupils get involved in prop design and construction in school?

Ideas from other schools - A rural primary school's action on dress-up days:

The school does not hold any non-uniform days to minimise pressure on pupils, but it still holds other types of special days with a fun element to support good causes. They have an 'odd socks' day to reflect on diversity and promote anti-bullying, and an 'inside out' day, where pupils can wear an item of their school uniform inside out, to celebrate kindness and the importance of children's mental health. The focus on these days is raising awareness rather than collecting donations.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2  Eid al Fitr Early May bank holiday	3  Eid al Fitr	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30  Urdd Eisteddfod Performances	31					

 School event	 Holiday	 Charity	 Theme day or week	 Cultural or religious event	 GB-wide event	 Scottish event	 Welsh event	 English event	 Thinking point
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JUNE 2022

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 Bike Week Usually in June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children needing bikes of their own to take part 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which local organisations can support with ensuring all children can take part?
 Father's Day 19 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making gifts to take home in exchange for a monetary contribution Events held in school with entry fee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can you ensure that all children get the opportunity to take something home? Are there any ways of making events free or reduced price so that all families are able to attend? Who should families speak to at your school if cost will be a barrier to them attending and how do you communicate this?
 End of year class photographs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of purchasing photographs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can you ensure that attention is not drawn to children and families who do not purchase school photographs? Can the photos be distributed out of school hours to avoid pupils knowing who has and who has not purchased a photo? Are there resources in school which could be used to ensure that all children have a school photograph?
 Summer Fayre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entry fee Expense of stalls/games Food and refreshment costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What costs are associated with attending the school fayre? Could you include some free activities?
 P7 Transition Trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of going on the trip Cost of outdoor clothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have families been signposted and supported to access local grants? What is the total cost for a child to attend including clothing and spending money? How can this cost be reduced? How can the school help families who don't have appropriate outdoor clothing?

Ideas from other schools - A city secondary school's approach to school food:

Students who are eligible for free school meals are allowed to spend their allowance throughout the day on a full range of meals and snacks. Any unspent money from their daily £2.60 allowance is kept on their account so it can be used another day. The school's catering manager also ensures that there are always cheaper options available so that students who have less money to spend can still get enough to eat. This helps students who are from low-income families but don't qualify for FSM (a situation that affects one million children in poverty in the UK). In the dinner hall, children eating school dinners and those with packed lunches can sit together.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2 Spring bank holiday	3 Platinum jubilee bank holiday	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Father's Day
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

									
School event	Holiday	Charity	Theme day or week	Cultural or religious event	GB-wide event	Scottish event	Welsh event	English event	Thinking point

JULY 2022

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 End of year celebrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children asked to contribute food and drink to share Party clothes worn in school Cost of ticket (e.g. prom tickets) Cost of outfits, photographs, transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What can school provide for this event so that pupils do not need to bring in things from home? How can you mark and celebrate the end of year in a way that is inclusive for all students? Have you asked students what they would like from their end of year celebration, taking into account those who don't have much money?
 Sports Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buying team/house t-shirts Wearing team/house colours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What resources do you have available in school which could be used to demarcate different houses or teams?
 Leavers' Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of costumes and props Cost of tickets Cost of refreshments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the current cost for a family to attend this event and how could these costs be reduced? Could donations be adopted rather than a fixed ticket price?
 School Leavers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Items available to purchase (leavers' hoodies, year books, photographs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What mementoes can you as a school provide for all children? Could the children make their own mementoes or mementoes for each other?
 Gift Giving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils and staff exchanging end of year gifts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If children and families wish to show their appreciation to school staff how can this be facilitated without gift giving? How can you model to children and families different ways to show appreciation and say thank you?
 Eid al-Adha Around 10-13 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children asked to bring in food and drinks to share with their friends for an Eid celebration Parents bringing in home cooked dishes for a Eid party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do your communications with children and parents about Eid celebrations state that any contributions such as food and sweets are entirely voluntary?

Ideas from other schools - A primary school's solution to end-of-school celebrations:

Instead of having an expensive prom for year 6, the school promotes a memory celebration. There is a Leavers' assembly focusing on the pupils' collective experiences and showcasing photos and a trophy presentation. There are no expensive leavers' hoodies to purchase, but pupils can bring in old t-shirts for their school friends to sign.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Eid al-Adha
11 Eid al-Adha	12 Eid al-Adha	13 Eid al-Adha	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point

AUGUST 2022

Event	Barriers highlighted by pupils and families	Things to consider
 Holiday Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families unaware of what holiday provision is available to them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you giving families lots of notice about what holiday provision is available at the school or locally, and promoting this regularly? When planning holiday activities, are you considering how to make them available to as many families as possible, not just those eligible for free school meals?
 Return to school (Scotland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families unaware of financial entitlements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you supporting students and families to access their financial entitlements? This can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA), a weekly payment of £30 to help a student in education beyond the school leaving age of 16. mygov.scot/ema School clothing grant, which is normally a cash grant paid to a family's bank account to help with the cost of school clothing and shoes. mygov.scot/clothing-grants Free school meals. mygov.scot/school-meals
 Uniform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expense of compulsory school uniform No pre-loved uniform available Sanctions in place for pupils who do not bring their PE kit to school or have the correct uniform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What pre-loved uniform provision is available at your school and how do students and families access it? How much does uniform cost and how easy is it for families to purchase or order? What support can school offer if students do not have their PE kit or uniform?
 Trips, Events and Clubs Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families not given enough notice when trips, extra-curricular activities and fundraising events are organised After-school clubs and trips cost money to attend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you have planned for the next academic year and how much will families be asked to contribute? How can you ensure that families have enough time to pay for school activities and events? How are you going to communicate with families about school costs and any support that is available?

Ideas from other schools - A city primary school's action on pre-loved uniform:

The school has an Eco Council, whose members are drawn from all parts of the school community, including pupils. The council organises the school's pre-loved uniform provision, promoting it as a way to help the environment as well as reducing costs. The school collects good quality outgrown school uniforms and makes them available to families several times a year. This provision of pre-loved uniform is much appreciated by parents and has helped reduce cost pressures for many families.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Summer bank holiday (Scotland)	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Summer bank holiday (England and Wales)	30	31				



School event



Holiday



Charity



Theme day or week



Cultural or religious event



GB-wide event



Scottish event



Welsh event



English event



Thinking point