



# Pupil Equity Fund

## - a guide for families

# 2023-24

*“Every child should have the best possible start in life, no matter their background. Schools have a significant role to play in ensuring every child is given the right support to help them achieve their full potential”*



Healthy  
Respectful  
Responsible  
Achieving  
Ambitious  
Dedicated

## Why have a Pupil Equity Fund?

Speyside High School receives £17 500 per year currently to reduce the attainment gap within our school. The key issues which we aim to address are:

Mental and physical health and wellbeing

- *We want to ensure that young people's health and wellbeing is in the best possible place to deal with the natural ups and downs of life and that they know where to go to get help and are supported to do so.*

Improving young people's aspiration and confidence

- *We want all young people to develop their confidence, aspirations and awareness of the different opportunities that are available to them.*

Participation

- *We want to ensure that money never proves a barrier to participating fully in school life.*

Improving literacy and numeracy

- *We want all young people to get the support required to improve their literacy and numeracy skills across all their subjects*

Involvement in wider school activities

- *We want all young people to participate as fully as possible in the wider school life, including clubs and extra curricular activities*

Healthy nutrition to fuel learning

- *We want all young people to be fuelled for the school day and to ensure that no young person lacks focus on their learning due to hunger.*

## What does this look like at Speyside High School?

### Inclusion Support Officer

Our inclusion support officer Sarah Thornhill runs the Wellbeing Hub - a transitional space which allows young people to prioritise their physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing.

The Wellbeing Hub which is located along the English corridor can be used by young people to self-regulate, to provide a safe space to work on a short term basis and as part of flexible learning timetable to support transition back into school.



< Sarah Thornhill

### Mentoring

Each new S1 is offered a mentor at Speyside High School and this offer is targeted from S2 upwards. Within each mentor meeting, there is a chance to discuss with a teacher any concerns or issues. This is shared with the young person's Guidance teacher along with being sent home to parents / carers.

### Breakfast club



Breakfast club is open to all young people every morning from 8.20-8.45am. Food offered includes toast and butter/jam, croissants, fruit and cereal bars. This is currently paid for through the Co Op community partnership fund. This is organised by Mrs Duffy.

Mrs Duffy >



## Wall of wonders



The wall of wonders sits just outside our breakfast club hatch and is open to all young people. It contains a variety of useful products to support health and wellbeing including, deodorant, toothpaste, sanitary products, soap and shampoo. It is completely free – all we ask is that young people only take what they need.

## Equipment provision

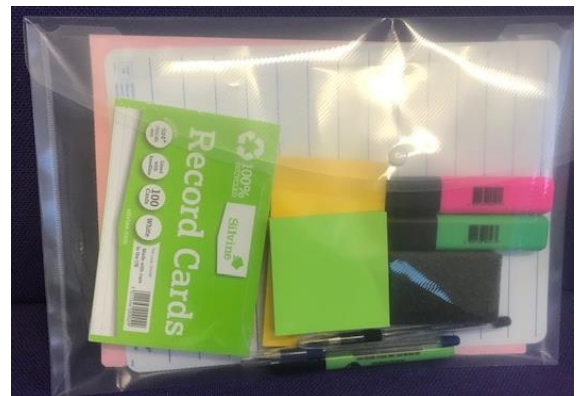
A bank of resources are available throughout the year for young people to request support with equipment. This can be done through their Guidance teacher.



As a result of feedback from p7s consulted, each young person in S1 has also been offered the contents of a satchel with a water bottle, pencil case, calculator. This is organised by Mr McWhirter.

< Mr McWhirter

To support those in S4-6 sitting SQA exams, we provide revision support packs which include a whiteboard and marker, highlighters, post it notes and flash cards along with revision strategy reminders.



## Digital Inclusion – Laptops for use at home

Through the Scottish Government and The Moray Council we have access to a bank of laptops which can be used to support home learning. These laptops are available on request and can be used for the time your young person is at Speyside High School. For young people who do not have internet access at home, we are able to provide a WiFi access point which runs on the Vodafone mobile network through the William Grant Foundation. If you would like to discuss your young person getting access to technology, please contact Mr McWhirter or your young person's guidance teacher.



## Support for Uniform Clothing – No Waste Wardrobe

We run a programme called the 'No Waste Wardrobe' to support young people accessing uniform style clothing, like branded school jumpers, polo shirts and other essential clothing items. There is also access to gym kit in the wardrobe. This stock comes from good quality donated clothes, both pre-used and new for items like underwear and socks. This can be accessed during the school day via appointment with Sarah Thornhill in the Wellbeing Hub or at evenings and Saturdays through the Community Reception.



### Speyside High No-Waste Wardrobe



- Access to free school uniform clothing and PE kit.
- Sustainable - reusing good quality clothes instead of throwing them away.
- Consider donating old, good quality uniform clothes to the school office.
- Located next to the fitness suite in the extension.
- In school appointments available in the hub from Sarah.
- Accessed during school time by appointment and during evenings and Saturdays through the community desk.

## Cost of living crisis – reducing food waste

In order to support those families struggling with the increase in the cost of food and to reduce wastage from our canteen, our canteen is now offering food at the end of the day that would otherwise be thrown away. This includes soups, sandwiches and certain main meals.

## Literacy / numeracy support



Additional support for young people with literacy and numeracy takes the form of either in class or out of class support. This may be short one-to-one sessions with Mrs Hoyle or support for a group whilst still in class. For those not accessing mainstream education this may happen at an alternative location outside the school e.g. the local primary school or community library.

< Mrs Hoyle

## Community partnership project

Targeted young people within S1-3 are given the opportunity to take part in a literacy / numeracy outdoor learning project to enhance their sense of confidence, participation and self esteem as well as improve their literacy and numeracy. We work alongside Outfit Moray who offer a range of outdoor activities including zip lining, bush craft, archery, abseiling and orienteering. Parents / carers are invited to a presentation event where young people showcase their learning.



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## Raising Attainment

To support exam success, young people in S4-6 take part in an Exam Success event in February. These sessions aim to support successful revision strategies alongside dealing with stress and growth mindset.

## Monitoring progress

The progress of all young people within Pupil Equity Fund is recorded to ensure that we can intervene at an early stage if any issues arise. The information includes:

- Who their mentor is
- Literacy and numeracy progress
- Attendance
- Time out / behaviour transfers

Each time this information is collected, any concerns are discussed with the relevant teachers and any additional support is put in place.

## Cost of the School Day

Speyside High School takes part in the Cost of the School Day project. The aim is to highlight and take action to break down any financial barriers to learning and ensure that every young person has an equal opportunity to become happy, healthy and high achieving at Speyside High School.

