

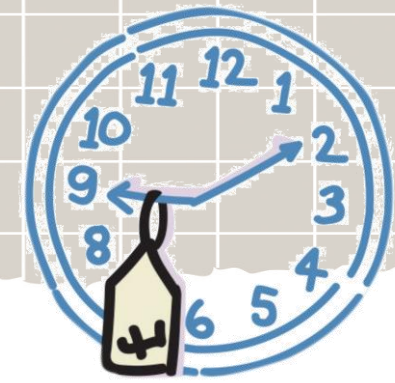


# Cost of the School Day

Aboyne Local Learning Partnership

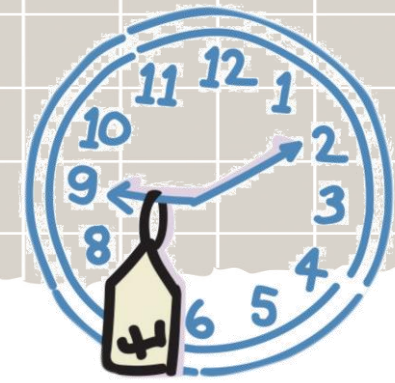
Susan McGregor

Community Learning & Development



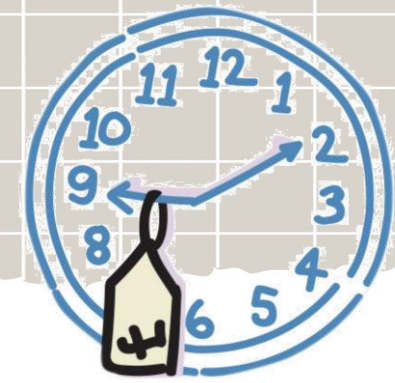
## Why Cost of the School Day?

- To ensure equal access to learning opportunities at school, home and in the wider community
  - by removing barriers to learning and barriers to learning and participation
  - by reducing the pressures which school and community costs on low income families
  - by supporting families to access financial entitlements



With regards to qualifications... Significant and persistent gap in attainment between children from lower and higher income families





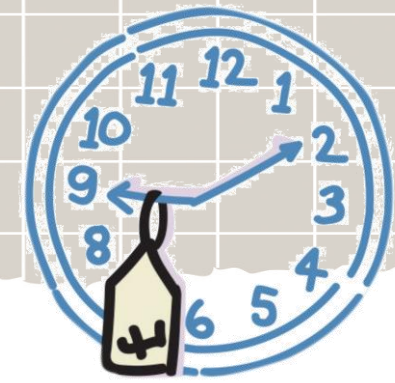
## What is child poverty?

Children are considered to be living in poverty if they live in households with less than 60% of the median household income. This is the key measure used by the UK and Scottish Government

In 2015-18 a family is considered as in poverty if they are living on

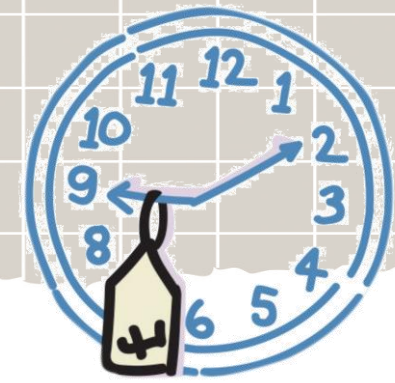
Less than **£363 a week or £18,900** a year for a single person with children aged 5-14 years

Less than **£463 or £24,100 a year** for a couple with children aged 5-14 years



## Child Poverty in Scotland

- 1 in 4 children in Scotland are living in poverty
- 65% of children living in poverty in Scotland are in households where someone works
- 39% of lone parents live in poverty
- 37% of children living in poverty live in a family with someone in the family are disabled



## The Aberdeenshire Picture

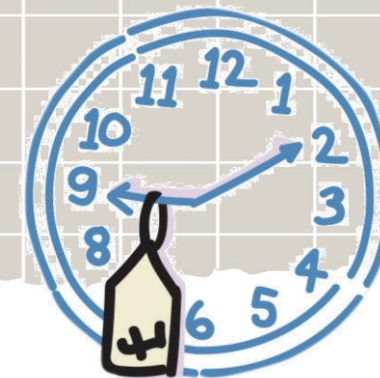
- 12.9% of children live in poverty, this rises to 14% after housing costs are taken into account
- Aberdeenshire West (Parliamentary Constituency) 12.4% of children are living in poverty
- Aboyne, Upper Deeside & Donside Ward, 11.5% of children are living in poverty and this rises to 16% after housing costs are taken into account

There is an assumption that children have everything. You might have a computer, but you don't have a printer...or a printer but not broadband

**Parent**

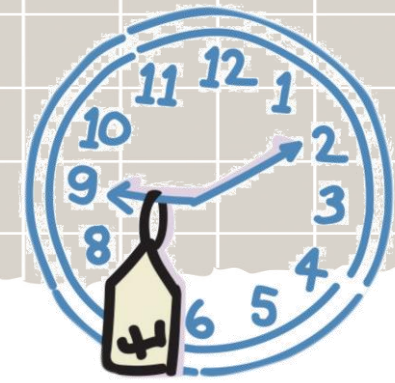
Like I can get a free school meal and don't mind, but if my friends all go out for lunch, and I am sitting myself getting a free meal I wouldn't like that

**Boy S3**



My children are in a small school and it is really noticeable if they don't go on trips and are basically the only ones left in school

**Parent**



Poverty is more hidden in our area... there should be some kind of way of letting people know what the issues are

**Parent**

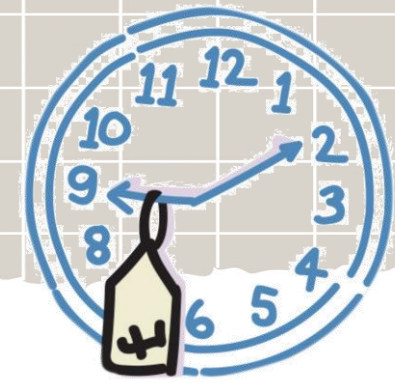
There's some contest with dancing and that's the reason I can't go because it cost too much to go to the contest

**Boy P6**

...if all your friends or people you know go to after-school clubs and school trips, that kind of isolates you from them. You're singled out you're not with them, just a spare person

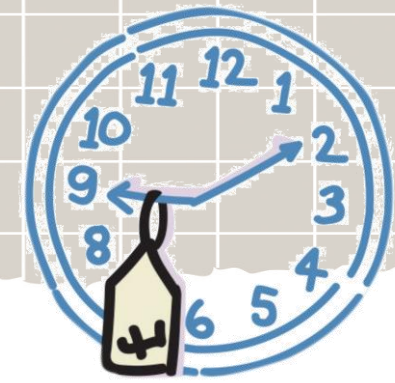
**Learner S5**





## Group Discussion

- What are the most significant costs for families at your school and in your community?
- What times of year might be the most difficult financially for families?
- What are children from low income families at risk of missing out on?
- What are the top 3 costs you would like to address in your school and community?
- What actions are you able to take to address these costs in your school and community?



## Useful Contacts

- National Debtline: Free impartial debt advice at [www.nationaldebtline.org](http://www.nationaldebtline.org) or on 0808 808 4000
- Citizens Advice Scotland: Information and advice given to help people resolve their money, legal and other problems. [www.cas.org.uk](http://www.cas.org.uk)
- Child Poverty Action Group: Offers free independent advice on benefits and tax credits system [advice@cpagscotland.org.uk](mailto:advice@cpagscotland.org.uk)
- Childcare Choices: Can provide help with childcare costs. In Aberdeenshire to access information about this service contact Family Information Service [afis@Aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:afis@Aberdeenshire.gov.uk) or 0800 198 3330 (Tues to Thurs 9.30am to 2pm)
- Free school meal and clothing grants: Find out if you are eligible to apply [www.Aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/parent-carers/assistance/school-clothing-grants](http://www.Aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/parent-carers/assistance/school-clothing-grants)