**Poverty Proofing Bonnyrigg: Helping children to reach their potential**

‘Schools and colleges cannot eradicate the poverty which exists in our society; nor can they fully mitigate the impact that poverty has on our young people. Those in public life who seek to highlight the inequalities created by poverty, would do well to understand that if we wish to end the negative impact of poverty on educational attainment, we need to address the existence of poverty itself. Having said that, however, we should recognise that schools, colleges and teaching professionals, can and do make a difference in the lives of individuals, of groups of children, and even on whole cohorts which is why the daily interaction in our classrooms is so important and indeed powerful. Teachers and lecturers care deeply about the children in front of us and we all wish to make that difference’.- Larry Flanagan, EIS

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| **AREA WITHIN EDUCATION** | **Evidence** | **Actions** |
| **Hunger** | Free school meal lists  ParentPay for lunches  Dinner duty observations  Staff observations of packed lunches and snacks | SLT monitor lunches and who has little/ nothing  Lunch debt may be written off  Additional snacks for those who are a concern  If pupil has no lunch class teacher will notify office/SLT and lunch provided. |
| **Clothes** | Staff observations- wearing of uniform, cleanliness of clothing | Availability of cheaper school uniform  Second hand uniform stall- Mrs Purdie  Gym shorts/ shoes available to borrow  Change of pants/ trousers/ skirts available  Spare sweatshirts available for children who come without one  Warm coat/clothing - staff ensure pupils are wearing warm/suitable clothing in the winter. Pupils can borrow lost property or stay inside if they do not have a warm coat |
| **Resources** | Staff observations | Basic resources available within the school |
| **Homework** | Change to our homework policy to reduce the expectations from home | Only reading homework is issued  Other things are optional |
| **Trips** | Office records of trip dates and costs | Each class only has 1 trip a year  P7 camp- We apply for funding from the John Watson trust to pay for parents who could not attend on the grounds of finance alone |
| **Fundraising** | Fundraising group records  Dress down day records | Limited to one monthly  Pupils are not pursued |
| **TOPPS** | ParentPay | Parents allowed to pay in small blocks  Discount for parents with more than one child  Reduced charge for children who attend part time  Parents not perused for non payment |
| **Active Schools** | Club Registers | PEF funding used to offer funding for clubs where children are in receipt of free school meals |