Supporting Change: School Uniforms

About

Buttington Trewern Primary School, Powys

140 Learners6% eligible for free school meals

Key areas being addressed

- ✓ Cost and affordability
- ✓ Promotion of School Essentials Grant
- ✓ Recycling
- ✓ Reduces carbon footprint

Identified Need

Aware of the cost of living crisis on our parents, especially for those on free school meals and those who worked zero hours contacts. We also had a significant amount of lost property. Our Eco and Climate Ministry did not want this going into landfill.

Costs of change

£300 initial installation fee for left over kitchen units and work tops, clothing rails and donation bin.



Actions being taken

- ✓ Promoted as a uniform swap shop
- Stock comes from unlabelled lost property and donations from families
- ✓ Recycling scheme enables families to access good quality school uniforms free of charge
- Prospective parents are advised not to buy new uniforms until they have visited the swap shop

Who is involved?

- ✓ Learners
- ✓ Parents and carers
- ✓ PTFA

Learners: Our Eco and Climate Ministry manage and maintain it. They have also used it as part of the Climate Change Cymru Earthshot 2024 competition.

Parents / Carers: Uniform is donated by parents and carers. Parents are increasingly using the swap shop to get their uniforms.

PTFA: Helped set this up and regularly promote it. They made lovely dividers so that all stock is organised in age ranges.

Impact and outcomes

- √ Good quality uniforms free of charge
- ✓ Prevents potential stigma or bullying
- ✓ Parents increasingly using this facility
- Reduce landfill and negative environmental impact of textile production
- Helps to subsidise the SEG and families who not qualify for it

Barriers addressed

The way we have approached it prevents worry or stigma around used uniforms.

Advice to other schools

Just go for it! Think carefully about where to locate so it is accessible, yet private and ensures safeguarding procedures are observed at all times.

Promote it well in your school social media. You don't want parents purchasing uniform and then finding out about it.

Want to know more?

You can contact the school for further information about implementation:

office@trewern.powys.sch.uk