

THE COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Voice network activities – raising awareness

Thinking about costs at your school

A discussion starter about school costs designed to raise awareness of how this can affect young people and their families.

In the Cost of the School Day toolkit (at <https://tinyurl.com/5y33wkud>) you'll find three case studies to help you and your group start thinking about and exploring costs. On page 46 and 47 you'll meet Ross, Humeira and Jessica.



They're all part of families where there isn't a lot of money to spare. With your group, talk about a typical day in your school. To help everyone think about what the day would be like for Ross, Humeira and Jessica, the Cost of the School Day Clock (page 31 of the toolkit) and flashcard resource (page 32 of the toolkit) can be used as visual prompts.

Here are some questions to help your discussion:

- From the start to the end of the school day, what kinds of things would they need to pay for?
- What things cost a lot? Is there anything you think of that they would find it difficult to afford?
- How would they fit in at your school?
- If they weren't able to afford to pay for something, what would happen?
- Is there anything they would miss out on doing at school because of money? Which things would be a big deal? How would they feel and what would they do?
- Would they ever feel different or left out because of not having much money? How would they feel and what would they do?
- Would they be able to get any help from the school? How easy or difficult would it be for them to talk to a teacher or someone else at school? What about their mums or dads?
- What sorts of things does your school do right now to make sure that they could take part and feel happy at school? How well do they work?
- If you were in charge of how the school is run, what would you do to make sure that they could take part in everything to feel happy and included?