

# THE COST OF

# THE SCHOOL DAY

## Voice network activities – asking everyone about costs

### Talking to your headteacher

**In this activity you will interview your headteacher about costs and help at school, and work with them to come up with a Cost of the School Day pledge for your school.**

This is a great way to find out what your school is doing to make school affordable for all. It can also help your headteacher to think about what more could be done to reduce costs and support everyone. You can suggest your own ideas!

#### Getting started

Your group leader or teacher can help you set up the meeting, and you might want to send your headteacher. Here are some words you could use in your invite:

Dear [name]

We would like to invite you to an interview where we are going to explore how our school is tackling the cost of the school day.

Would you be able to meet us on [add in day and date] at [time] in [venue] to chat further about what we do in our school, and other things we could do to make sure school costs are not a worry for pupils and families.



#### Headteacher homework

To help your headteacher understand some of the things young people say about the Cost of the School Day, you can set them homework and ask them to watch the Big Question film before you meet with them. You'll find the film on YouTube: <https://shorturl.at/gAFNU>

Take a look yourself too. Do you agree with what children and young people say?

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#### Question ideas to get you started

- What did you learn from young people in the Big Question film?
- What do you think we do well to help with the Cost of the School Day? What's the best thing?
- How do we tell our families about free school meals and other help with money?
- How much do you know about what pupils and families think about school costs?
- What ways do we help families who might be worried about affording a school trip or other activities?
- Is there anything new you would like to do to help with the cost of the school day?

#### Remember to think about:

- Who will interview your headteacher?
- How long will the interview last?
- Where and what time will it take place?
- Who will ask the questions? You might like to take it in turns.
- How will you record the answers? You could write them down or record them on your phone
- You could take pictures of the meeting to share more widely - who will take them and who will be in them?

#### Your school's Cost of the School Day pledge

Work with your headteacher to come up with a Cost of the School Day pledge. You can take a picture of your headteacher and you holding the pledge, and ask them to share your pledge on the school's social media, to show everyone how your school challenges poverty.