As a Rights Respecting School, Gracemount High School strives to support families in all aspects of life. We want to ensure that children have everything they need to be healthy and achieve.

Get in Touch

You can contact us at any time to ask for help. Please phone the school office on 0131 664 7440 or
Email at: Admin@Gracemount.edin.sch.uk

Gracemount Pupil Support Teachers are; Cat Murray (Lewis), Jasmine McKay (Skye) and Ellie Manczak (Tiree)

1 in 4 Lead Teachers are: Hayley Grisdale

Office Team are; Adey Kelman, Kim Galbraith, Susan Robertson and Glynys Fraser.

Pupil Support Officer; Rob Hart, contact on 07593356197

GHS Family Support

COMMITTED TO CARE AND EXCELLENCE

As a Rights Respecting School, Gracemount High School strives to support families in all aspects of life. We want to ensure that children have everything they need to be healthy and achieve.

We are here to help

This document has information on how you can access extra supports. This can be over whelming and so our Pupil Support Leaders and the 1 in 4 Team are here to support you.

Help with Food

Most families who receive Housing Benefits or Council Tax Reduction receive an automatic grant on 6th June. Families who did not receive an automatic award can apply for **Free School Meals** using this link: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/schoolgrants If you need help applying, please get in touch.

If you apply **on or before 30 September 2024**, we will backdate your Free School Meals award to the start of term – 14th August 2024.

If you apply **after** 30 September 2024, we will award Free School Meals from the date we receive your application.

Free School Meals

- The grant includes:
- free school meals
- payment for lunches during school holidays
- free milk
- a school clothing grant to help buy school clothes
- a child bridging payment four times a year

Free School Meals

Your child can get free lunches in school if you get:

- Universal Credit (monthly earned income is not more than £726)
- Income Support
- income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, and your income is less than £19,995
- both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit and have an income of up to £9,552

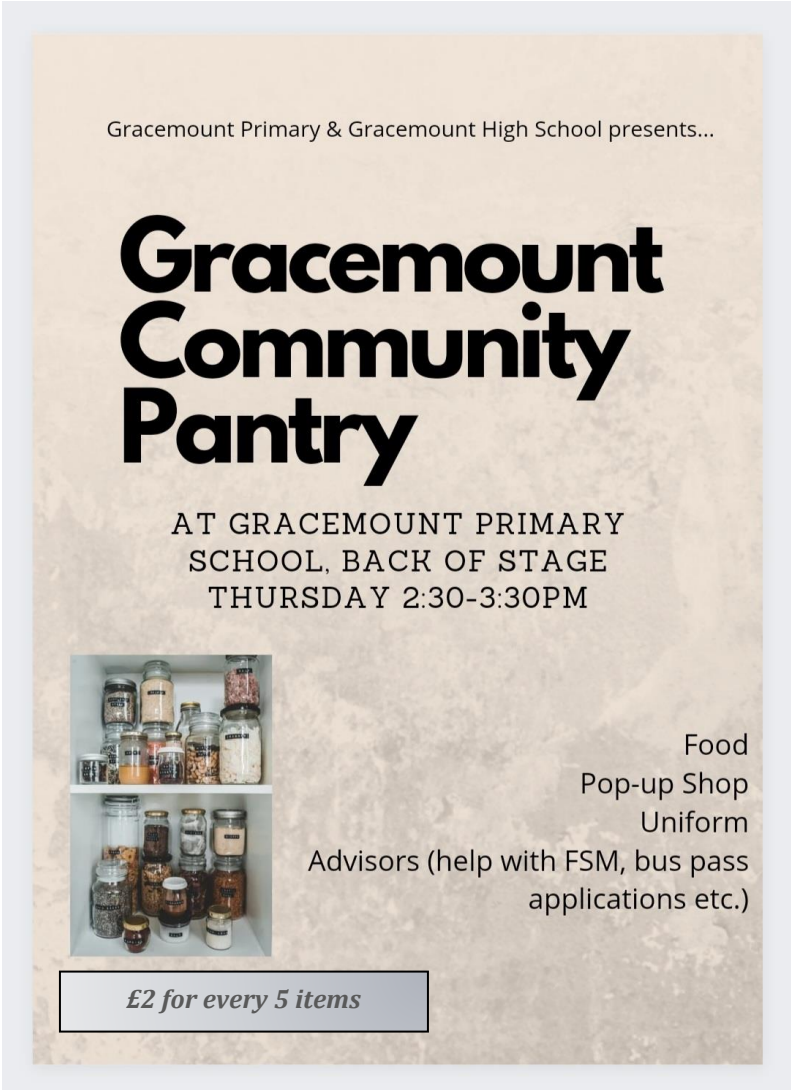
Getting free lunches if you're not getting benefits or tax credits

Your child might still get a free lunch in school, early learning or childcare if you're experiencing financial hardship. This could be because:

- your immigration status means you cannot get help from the government
- you're still waiting on your first Universal Credit notice

Your child may also be able to get a free lunch if at any point since they were aged two they've been:

- looked after
- had a Kinship Care Order
- had a Guardianship Order



Valley Park Community Centre Pantry

The pantry is membership based. There is a £1 membership fee payable at your first visit, then £2 per shop for a wide variety of items. Thursday 10am- 11am. Starts 13th October.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available in the main staffroom every day before school, between 8:00- 8:40am. This is available to all pupils and usually includes fruit, toast and hot chocolate.

Food Banks

If you are struggling to afford food, there are food banks across the city. You can get a food bank referral from your school, social worker, GP or Health Visitor.

If you need a referral, please contact your child's Pupil Support Leader or one of the 1 in 5 Lead Teachers.

Our local food bank is:
http://edinburghse.foodbank.org.uk/
This is open on Mondays, Tuesday and Thursdays between 10:00am - 1:30pm
Blythswood Care
47 Southhouse Broadway
Edinburgh
EH17 8AS

Uniform & Clothing

If you are applying for Free School Meals, you will receive a uniform grant. A clothing grant payment of £120 for each primary child and £150 for each secondary child, paid once a year into your bank account. Clothing grants are paid annually into your bank account.

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/schoolgrants

Wee Sub

Need some new school uniform?

Scan the QR Code to make a request for free uniform.
All requests are confidential.

Jumpers
Hoodies
Joggers
leggings
T-shirt/ polo Shirt
Blue shirts
Cardigans
Skirts
Tights
PE Items

Kids Love Clothes

This charity provides a selection of clothes for each child referred. The clothes are ironed, folded and packaged into beautiful giftbags, ready for delivery. Giftbags are free, and the child receives quality clothes that have been put together with care and attention. Please speak to school if you would like a referral.

www.kidsloveclothes.co.uk

Festivities

We are keen to support families with the financial pressures of Christmas and Eid celebrations. The 1 in 4 team can support with the following:

Gifts, treats/ hampers, traditional food- this is thanks to a range of charities and partners including Cash for Kids.

You can apply for support by contacting the school admin account. A letter goes out at the time of these holidays to all pupils.

Travel

- All young people under the age of 22 are entitled to a free bus pass.
-
- Please apply for a Young Scot National Entitlement Card.
-
- You can apply online: https://getyournec.scot/nec/

For those who do not have access to do this or are unable to we are taking applications at all the open libraries, applicants will require proof of address, ID and a passport photo/updated photo depending on whether or not they have an existing Young Scot Card.

Parental consent can be given at the time of the library appointment for those under 16 by showing proof of parental/guardianship (most likely a birth/adoption certificate).

For the under 16s who do not have proof of address if the parent/guardian takes proof of theirs along with the birth certificate this would allow the address to be added to the applicants, address. If they under 16s do not have photo ID (passport etc) the librarian can act as the referee for the applicant.

If you need any support with applying for a Young Scot's Entitlement Card or making a library appointment, please contact us.

Education and School Trips

At Gracemount we want to make sure that all children are included. We work hard to fund raise for school trips such as South Africa and the Water Spots trip to keep costs as low as possible.

We also provide opportunities to attend the Festival Fringe free of charge each year.

- We have an **Opportunities fund** which is to help pupils with any extra school costs. This could include some of the following: Music Lessons, books, revision guides, school materials such as stationary, sports clubs etc. Your child's teacher will make an application on behalf of your child.

- If you need **support paying for a school trip** or school event such as the summer ball please get in touch.

This link has a list of supports including help with; food, uniform, clothing, bills, housing and fuel: Support for families – The City of Edinburgh Council

If you are struggling our Pupils Support Leaders can put you in touch with partners and charities such as:

Citizens Advice Citizens Advice Edinburgh

EDINBVRGH

YOUR COUNCIL – YOUR FUTURE

2024-2025 School Calendar

August 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2024

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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February 2025

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March 2025

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30	31					

April 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

School Closed/Holidays

Teacher In-Service Day (closed for pupils)