

# Case Study: Level Trust





Because poverty shouldn't stop a child from loving  
to learn

# The needs of poor families (in Luton)



46% children live in poverty



24,000 people coping with  
in-work poverty



£529 per week



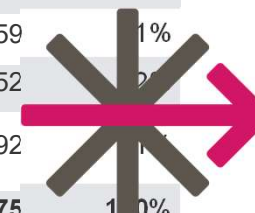
£300 per week



Expenditure Category	Weekly Household Spend	Annual Household Spend	% of Budget
Transport (not including insurance)	£86.80	£4,202	14%
Housing (e.g. rent, mortgage interest payments, repairs, etc.)	£66.20	£3,442	12%
Food and non-alcoholic drinks	£60.60	£3,151	11%
<del>Restaurants and hotels</del>	<del>£49.60</del>	<del>£2,579</del>	<del>9%</del>
Recreation and culture (e.g., pets, gym fees, TV, etc.)	£47.70	£2,480	8%
<del>Household (e.g., furniture, linens, appliances, etc.)</del>	<del>£40.70</del>	<del>£2,116</del>	<del>7%</del>
Utilities (e.g., water, gas, electric, etc.)	£31.80	£1,654	6%
<del>Package holidays</del>	<del>£26.00</del>	<del>£1,300</del>	<del>5%</del>
Clothing and footwear	£24.30	£1,264	4%
Council Tax	£23.60	£1,227	4%
Communication	£17.90	£931	3%
<del>Insurance</del>	<del>£17.60</del>	<del>£915</del>	<del>3%</del>
Personal (e.g., toiletries, jewellery, sunglasses, etc.)	£16.50	£858	3%
<del>Vices (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, etc.)</del>	<del>£12.40</del>	<del>£645</del>	<del>2%</del>
<del>Money transfers and credit (e.g., cash gifts)</del>	<del>£13.70</del>	<del>£712</del>	<del>2%</del>
<del>Holiday spending</del>	<del>£12.40</del>	<del>£645</del>	<del>2%</del>
<del>Miscellaneous</del>	<del>£10.00</del>	<del>£551</del>	<del>2%</del>
Health	£6.90	£359	1%
Education	£8.70	£452	2%
Licences, fines and transfers (e.g., stamp duty, road tax)	£3.70	£192	1%
<b>Total Spending</b>	<b>£572.60</b>	<b>£29,775</b>	<b>100%</b>

£339.30

£297.40



**level**  
**trust**

Average school uniform cost  
for high school boy £390.09



What would you do?



Debt rose from £4.3 million  
in 2017 to...



...£8.5 million in 2019



Children participate less in  
learning



“She has missed P.E. for 3 Thursdays sitting in the changing room for 35 minutes staring out the window. Watching the other kids who have the P.E. uniform. Watching Netball, Basketball. The teachers say it just takes 3 days for the kit to come in. Without the P.E. kit, in those 3 weeks she has not done P.E.”

**Denise, mum of Kirsty (14)**



“I will just go on PS4 yeah, and chill out. I get my mum to give me £2 on chicken and chips and then just chill. Or just go and cause trouble.”

**Nate (15)**



Children participate less in  
learning



Children worry and isolate  
themselves



“Most of the logo'd uniform is overpriced. Why can't your school have a generic uniform policy and parents can easily pick up most items from the supermarket? Times are hard, I feel bad when my daughter sees me stress about my finances when she is already anxious about starting a new school. I work full time and have no recourse to help via pupil premium. This isn't a good start to the [school] experience”

**Mrs Graham**



Parents worry and feel let  
down by their schools



Poorer attainment for  
poorer pupils



It doesn't have to be like this

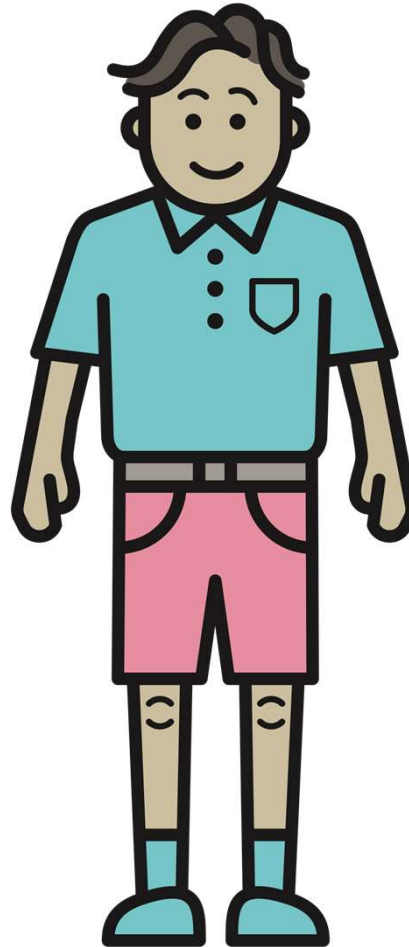


What we do



# What difference we make

Children  
participate more in  
learning



“Thank God for Level Trust [without it] I would be struggling. She [Kirsty] wouldn’t be in school at the moment. You have to wear jumper, jacket, coat. Without that they are not interested..”

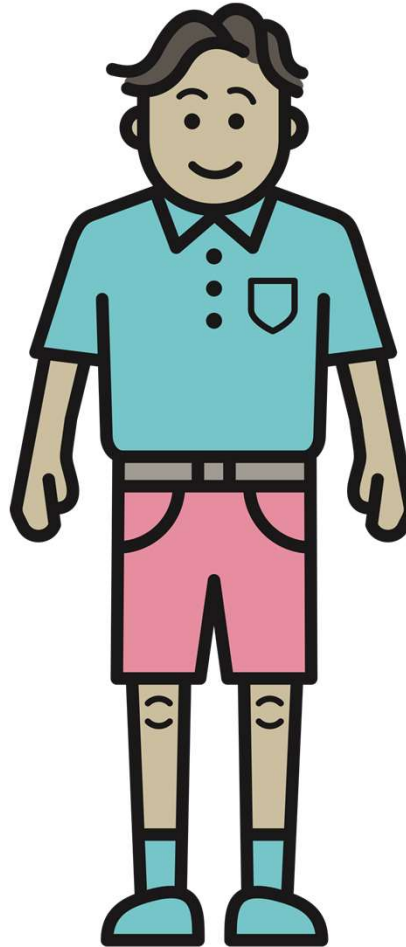
**Denise, mum of Kirsty (14).**



# What difference we make

Children  
participate more in  
learning

Children enjoy  
school more



“It enables us to help children feel included within their peer group and school class which in turn helps them concentrate on learning and having fun”.

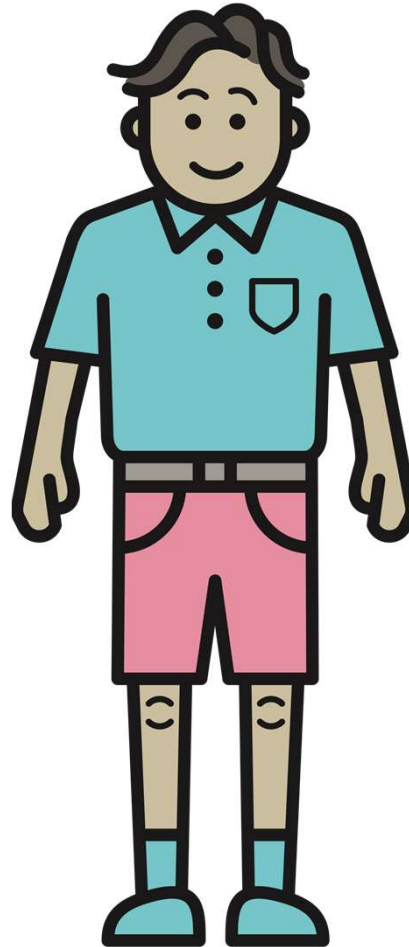
**Luton School**



# What difference we make

Children participate more in learning

Children enjoy school more



Children learn more skills

Children feel better about themselves



“My daughters are all happy because they’ve got the stuff they need – they don’t have to be the odd ones out. Instead of sitting there in an old coat or shoes that are falling apart because I don’t have the money to afford to buy new ones, they’re happy they look like everybody else! All of this support has made me feel more positive about the future”.

**Alison, single mum of 4.**

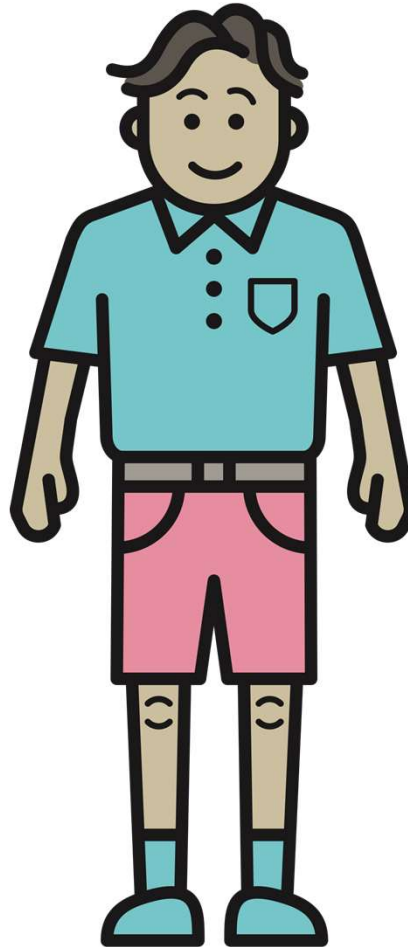


# What difference we make

Children participate more in learning

Children enjoy school more

Children have greater aspirations



Children learn more skills

Children feel better about themselves



“I wish for me to have my own room and a really big house with a big garden. I want to grow up to be a gymnastics coach. I want to keep doing cricket and football. I think I might want to be a coach of different sports when I'm older.”



# What difference we make

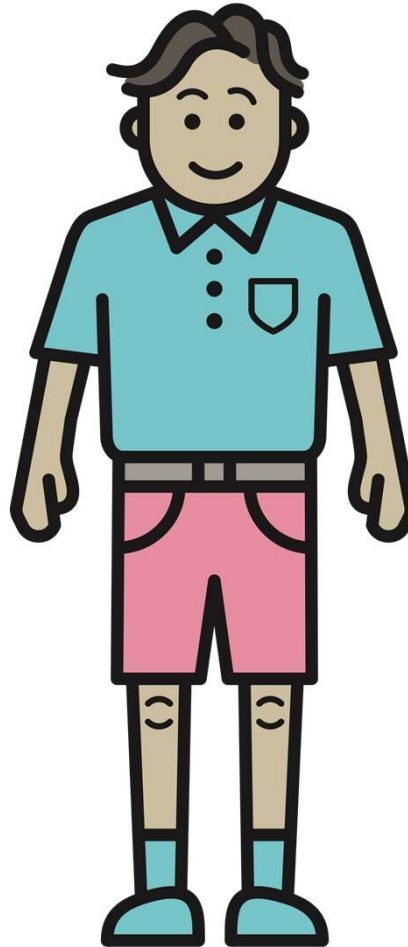
Children participate more in learning

Children enjoy school more

Children have greater aspirations

Children and parents feel less worried

Schools have improved relationships with parents



Children learn more skills

Children feel better about themselves

Children learn more skills

Parents have more money to spend on other essentials



Happier, more engaged,  
more confident children



What next?



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Outstanding Schools



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Contact me!



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