

School uniforms,  
trips, PE kit, are you  
struggling to meet  
the ever increasing  
costs of your child's  
education?



## Information for schools

### Dear Head Teacher

Citizens Advice has been campaigning to ensure that no child feels excluded or isolated as a result of the costs of schooling. This card is intended to raise awareness of the issue among parents and schools.

For more information about the Adding Up campaign including top tips for schools, please visit our website [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) and follow the links.

The new School Admissions Code (February 2007 in England) says schools should limit the expense of uniforms and other school items so that children from all backgrounds have a fair and equal chance of taking part fully in life at their preferred school. For detailed information on the school admissions code go to: [www.dcsf.gov.uk](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk).

The new school admissions code says schools should limit the expense of uniforms and other items so that all children have a fair and equal chance of taking part fully in life at their preferred school.

The code – says:

- **Costs should be limited and uniforms available in high street shops and a range of retail outlets.**
- **No family should feel unable to apply for admissions on account of high costs of uniform, sports kit and any other specialist equipment.**
- **Schemes helping with costs should be widely publicised and administered discreetly.**

Citizens Advice, as part of a coalition of charities, has been campaigning to ensure that no child feels excluded or isolated as a result of the costs of schooling. Now you can help yourself, other parents and your child's school. Just fill in the questions on the attached card and hand it to your school.

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## Adding up – a Citizens Advice campaign on the cost of school education

How does your school add up?

Name of School:

Is your child's uniform widely available in high street shops?

Yes  No

Are PE kit and other specialist items widely available in high street shops?

Yes  No

Does your child's school make clear which trips are essential for school work and which are just for fun?

Yes  No

Are schemes to help parents with costs clearly publicised and explained?  Yes  No

Do letters from your child's school make it clear that donations to school trips are voluntary?  Yes  No

There are lots of ways to reduce the cost of school education. For ideas visit **[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)**.

**Support the campaign and take this card to your school**