

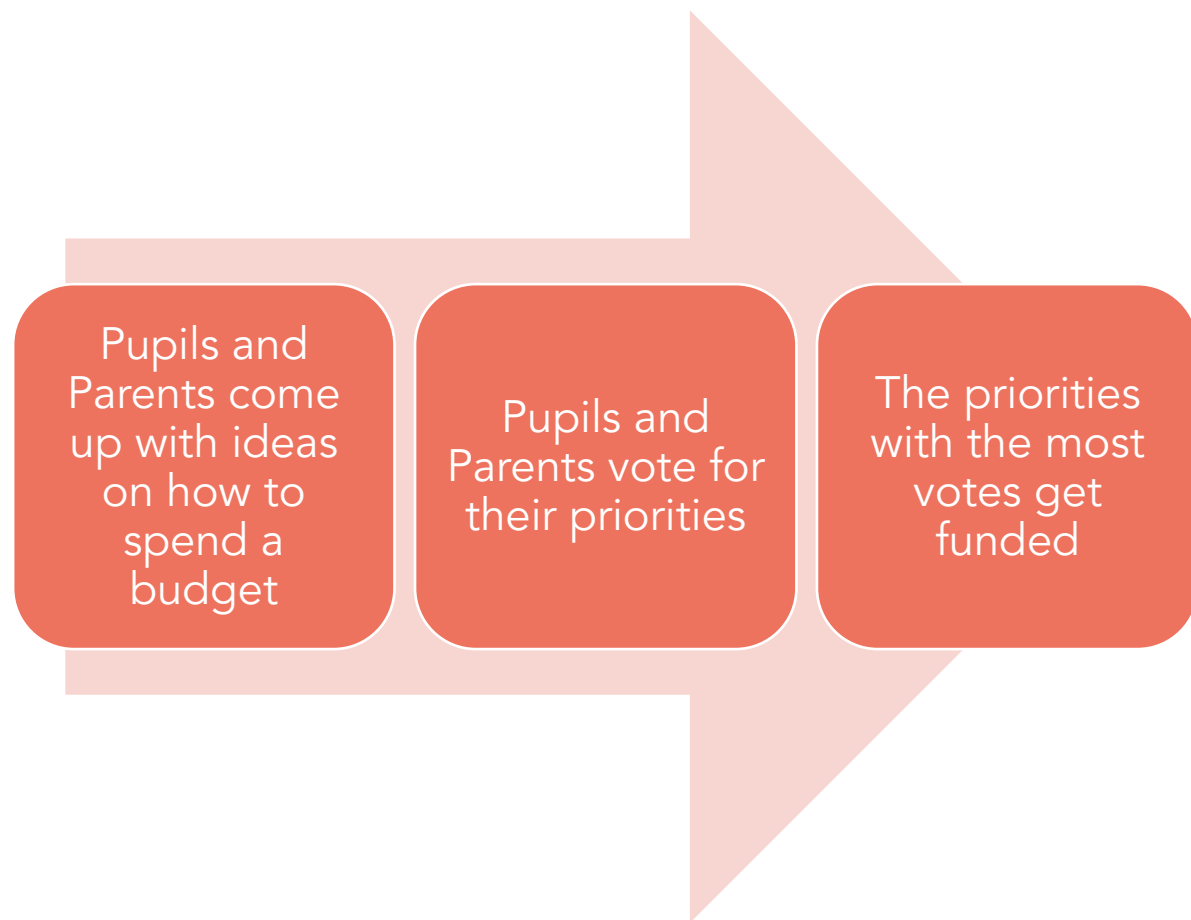
# Participatory Budgeting

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# What is Participatory Budgeting (PB)?

- PB is a way for people to have a direct say in how local money is spent
- PB gives people a voice. It brings them together both face-to-face and online. It helps more people to get involved and have a say.
- Participatory budgeting is more than just getting pupils and parents to vote on options, they need to explore the issue and come up with suggestions themselves.
- Video - <https://youtu.be/e-KENbVaEvk>



# Why are we being asked to look at PB?

- Complements aspirations in the [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#) to give communities more powers to achieve their own ambitions
- Since then, the Scottish Government and COSLA made a commitment that at least 1% of local government budgets in Scotland will be subject to participatory budgeting by the end of 2021

[More choice for communities - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

[communitychoices-frameworkagreement-9.pdf \(cosla.gov.uk\)](https://www.cosla.gov.uk/communitychoices-frameworkagreement-9.pdf)

- The 1% target is one of five commitments included in the Scottish Government's [Open Government Partnership](#) national action plan.

# Why are we being asked to look at PB?

- As outlined in an SLC Executive Committee Paper in March 2020, each resource is being asked to look at how they fulfil SLC's part in the 1% agreement.
- For SLC Education Resources it was agreed that 5% of PEF funding would be subject to PB
- The Pupil Equity Fund, National Operational Guidance (2020) encourages PB:

*“Participatory budgeting (PB) is an innovative and effective mechanism to engage with parents and pupils, in particular those who face barriers to participation. PB directly involves people in participating in budgeting decisions that will have a direct impact on improving their lives and it can engage people who would not normally participate with traditional forms of communication.”*

# Why are we being asked to look at PB?

- PB supports Article 12 of the UNCRC 'children and young people have the human right to have opinions and for these opinions to matter'.
- Education Scotland Paper (2018) entitled "Learner Participation in Educational Settings" sets out the 4 arenas of participation. This framework encourages us to consider how learners can have a say in schools.



# PB Lead Role is to....



## Facilitate

Facilitate NOT lead a PB group of stakeholders to spend a minimum of 5% of PEF money for 21-22

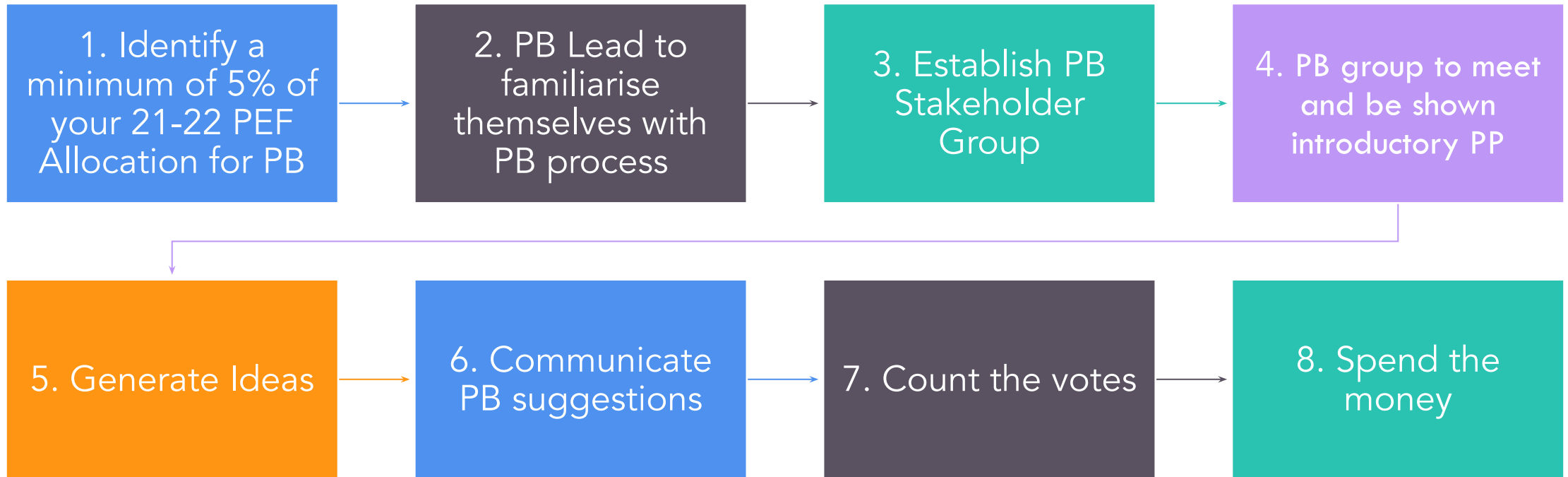
## Assist

Assist the PB stakeholder group - the group should lead the ideas and not be led by your views/opinions – please try to remain impartial

## Ensure

Ensure the following step-by-step guide is implemented within your school

# The Process...





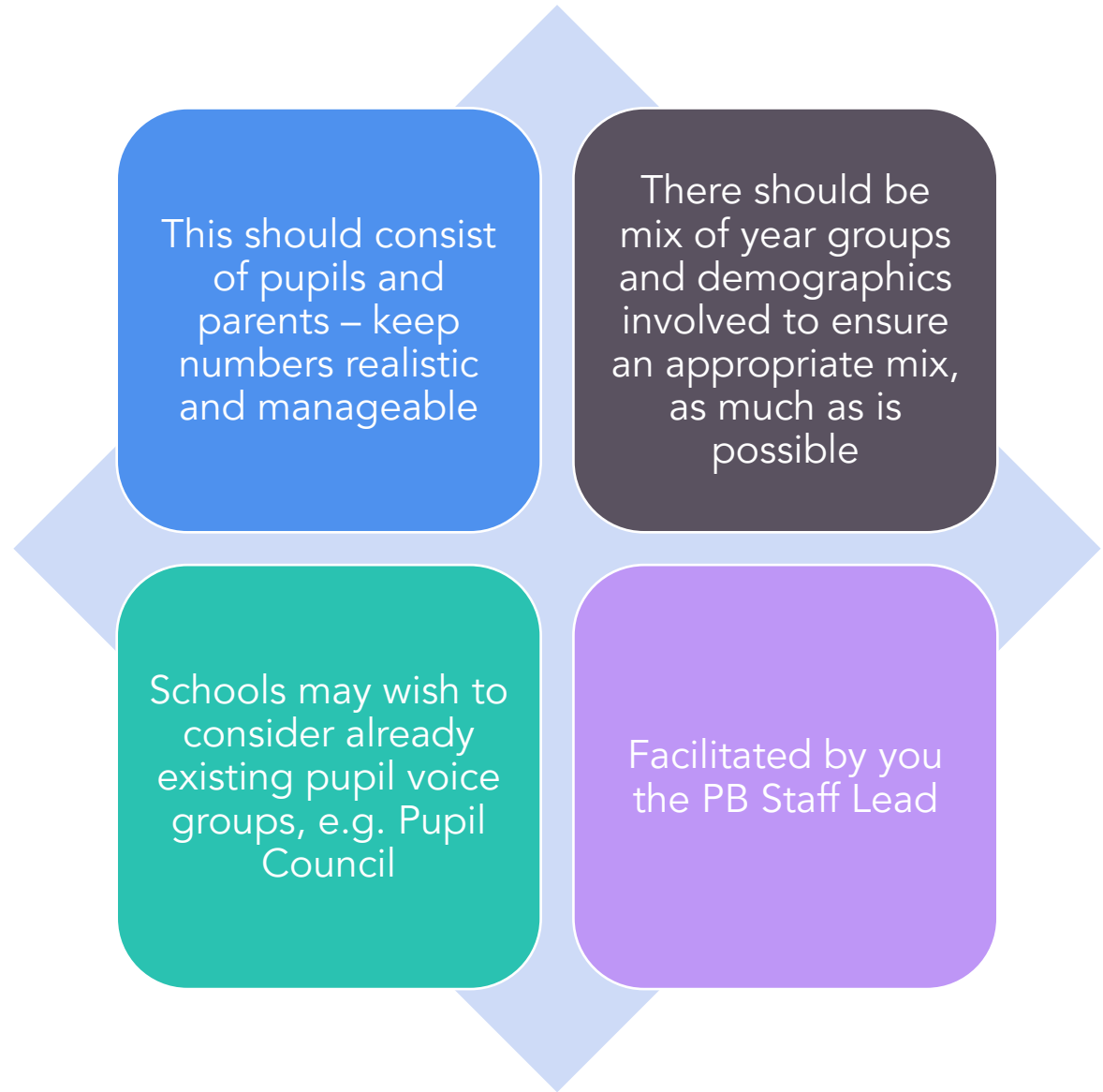


## Step 2 – Identify PB Lead and PB Lead to familiarise themselves with PB process

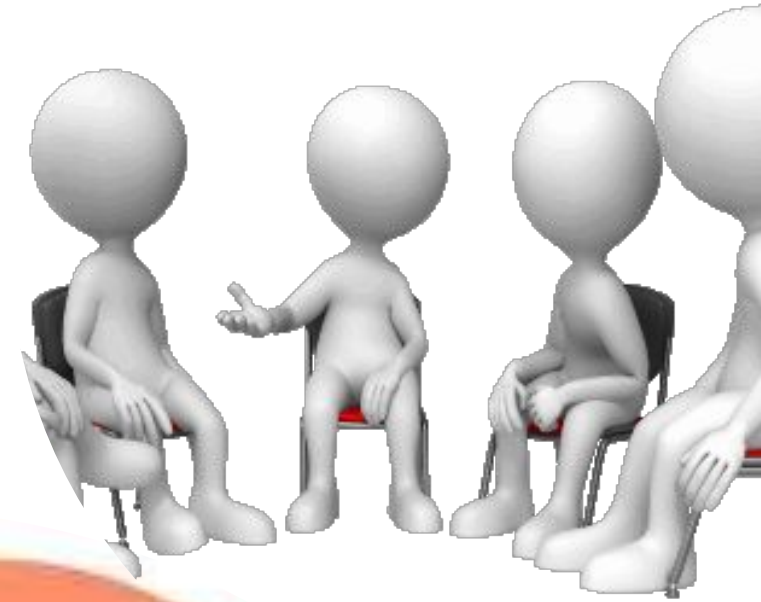
- CLPL PP
- Wider reading
- Plan how this will work in your school
- Prepare your own context-specific PP using these slides as a basis
- Liaise with HT and/or SLT throughout the process



# Step 3 – Establish PB Group



Step 4 – PB  
group to meet  
and be shown  
introductory PP



# Step 5 – Generate Ideas

- Research possible ideas within PB group
- Consult with and ask for further ideas beyond the group, e.g. classes, Parent Council, etc.
- Identify from this consultation a minimum of 3 or maximum of 5 potential suggestions to be put forward for consultation
- Market the PB agenda and process, ensuring all stakeholders get the opportunity to put forward ideas



## Step 6 – Communicate PB Suggestions



PB group to present the ideas to pupils, parents and staff

All pupils, parents and staff should then be given opportunity to vote for their preferred spend

All staff to be given opportunity to vote – cleaners, janitor, catering staff, SSA, teachers, managers, etc.

# Step 7 – Count the Votes

- Count the votes and establish the winning option
- Communicate this with all stakeholders
- Complete the Google Form by 8th October 2021

<https://forms.gle/RVNHEup6YHMeqpURA>

- Spend the money! 😊



# Considerations for PB group

PB processes need to consider those people who are digitally excluded. Things to think about:

- How to market the PB process to stakeholders
- Use of basic language.
- Translation of text.
- Different language options
- 'How to vote: Google Classroom, Google Forms, Ballot Papers, SMS voting' alongside other creative approaches.
- Telephone calls to register votes.
- Leaflets.



## Some ideas...

- Google forms or equivalent
- Online platforms - Teams, Google Classroom, webinars, YouTube channel, etc.
- Working with individual classes/pupil voice groups to generate ideas
- Use PSE classes in secondary school as a vehicle for consultation and marketing
- Marketing campaign – videos, posters, newsletters, website, social media, Google Classroom, etc.
- Use visuals to support younger pupils and pupils with ASN to understand the ideas and to make an informed choice when voting
- Work with support for learning team to ensure materials are accessible to all pupils
- Options for voting – electronic, paper ballot, buttons/stickers, etc.
- The world's your oyster – chose options which benefit your individual school context/community

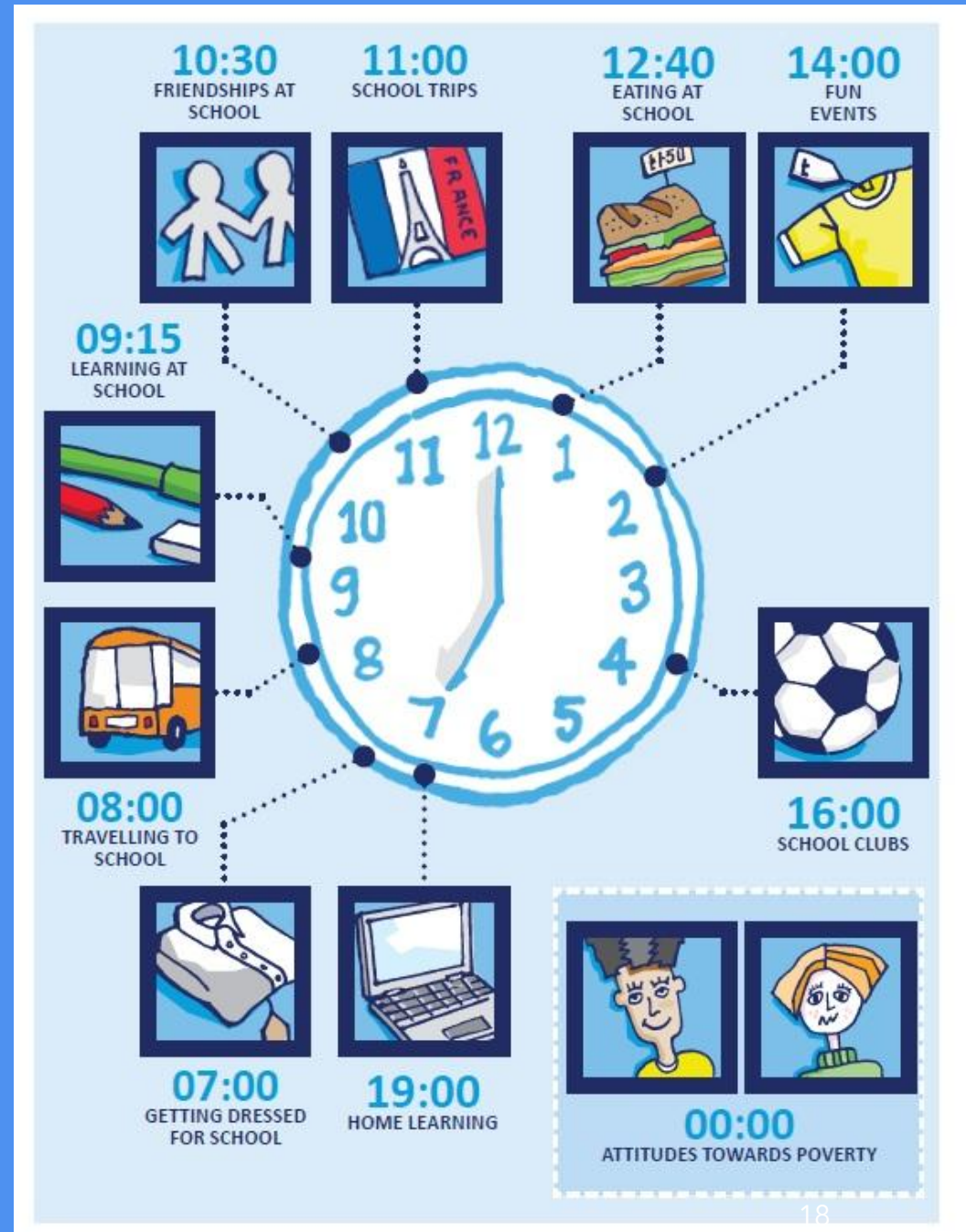


# Working within the constraints of PEF

- PB group cannot spend the money on anything, it MUST be within the constraints of the Pupil Equity Funding National Operational Guidance.
- A reminder of some of the key messages:
  - Pupil Equity Funding must enable schools to deliver activities, interventions or resources which are clearly additional to those which were already planned
  - Funding must provide targeted support for children and young people (and their families if appropriate) affected by poverty to achieve their full potential.
- We are therefore suggesting the PB groups look at the Cost of the School Day agenda. This keeps within the constraints of PEF and gives the group enough scope to generate their own ideas on how children, young people and their families affected by poverty can be supported within their school context.
- There are also lots of support materials, which the group can use to help them with their research and the generation of appropriate ideas on how the money could be spent.

# PB and Cost of the School Day

The Cost of the School Day Toolkit |  
CPAG



# Participatory Budgeting in Schools Case Studies

- This video introduces you to participatory budgeting in schools by showing you how it has worked in Phoenix. It features interviews with students, teachers, principals, local elected officials, and the superintendent - [Participatory Budgeting in Schools on Vimeo](#)
- PB and CoSD in Castlemilk - [PB in Castlemilk: Voting to lower the cost of the school day — PB Scotland](#)
- St Luke's PS, Mid Lothian – video on PB and CoSD - ['Cost of the school day'. Participatory Budgeting - St Luke's Primary School - YouTube](#)



Evidence and Ideas: PB in Schools — PB Scotland

Some of the results of PB processes in schools worldwide...

Cheaper uniforms

Homework clubs

Free breakfast clubs

Increase access to IT resources

Stigma free systems within the school – e.g young people can get financial support to go on trips, take up free school meals

Greater understanding among teacher to why a young person doesn't have a calculator, right uniform etc

Greater understanding of wider democratic processes

Increased student confidence. Resilience and key life skills

Bringing schools into the wider community

Involvement and selection of school and community infrastructure projects

Engaging young people in non-traditional learning approaches

# Resources

- [PB in Schools — PB Scotland](#)
- [Participatory Budgeting in educational establishments | Learning resources | National Improvement Hub](#)
- [CPAG in Scotland | CPAG](#)
- [https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/Equality/PACT Report Phase 1 - final.pdf](https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/Equality/PACT%20Report%20Phase%201%20-%20final.pdf)

# Final Support

- Laura Mitchell, Lead Officer PEF  
[laura.mitchell@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:laura.mitchell@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)
- Waheeda Huq, Lead Officer SAC  
[waheeda.huq@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:waheeda.huq@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)
- PB Teams page – ask questions, network, share ideas and good practice, lighten the load! 😊
- Any Questions???

