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Lord Hamilton of Epson House of Lords London SW1A 0PW

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During the oral question on the pupils' climate change strike on 13^{th} February, you asked me why it is right for children to go on strike during term time at a cost to the tax payer and to their own education. In response I said that an average primary school lesson costs £1,600 and a secondary school lesson is £1,900, so school is where children should be.

These figures are an average of amounts provided by various multi-academy trusts (MATS) that I have spoken to about their approach to curriculum planning. I would like to clarify that these figures refer to the annual cost of running one lesson from the school timetable, not the cost of an individual lesson. There are many different models of curriculum planning and we trust schools to manage their own budgets and choose a model that suits their own needs and circumstances.

I hope this answer has been useful and will place a copy in the house libraries.

THEODORE AGNEW