

Thursday 20th July 2023

Dear Families,

RE: School Meal Price Increase

I am writing to inform you of an increase to the cost of school meals which will take effect on our return from the summer break.

As you will be aware, there has been a significant increase in costs associated with meal production - both in relation to food supplies and energy costs. Whilst we have worked with our current provider, ISS, to try to keep the costs as low as possible in relation to the cost of a school meal, we are now at a point where we need to review this.

The cost of a school meal will rise from £2.45 to £2.67. This means that the overall weekly increase is £1.10.

This increase will take effect from 1st September 2023.

The Government has continued to support the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) initiative and this means that **all** of the children, from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can be provided with a school meal free of charge. As well as hot meals, our school meal provision also includes a cold sandwich option and is a great solution for those who would normally bring a packed lunch. **The UIFS is not means tested and is for every EYFS and KS1 child.**

If your child is in Y3 - Y6 and you are in receipt of any of the following, you may also be eligible for free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, plus, from 19 April 2022, those with no recourse to public funds.
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get) at the time of your application.

You can apply for free school meals here <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/schools-and-children/free-school-meals>. If you have any questions or need any support in making an application, please contact the academy office for confidential support.

Payments for school dinners need to be made via Parentpay, where you will have the option of paying daily or weekly. Please ensure that you keep on top of payments so that your child can order their dinners.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Skirrow
Principal