

1st March 2024

School Meal Price Increase and Update on Vouchers

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that after careful consideration, we are having to increase the cost of school meals, to take effect when we return from the spring (Easter) break on Monday 15th April 2024.

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 to try to keep the costs as low as possible, we are now at a point where we need to review this, and are doing so in line with increases across local primary schools.

The cost of a school meal will rise from £2.68 to £2.89 from 15th April 2024.

We have also received confirmation that the food vouchers issued during school holidays to eligible families as part of the household support fund may not continue. If this remains the case, they will not be issued for the spring (Easter) break and we want to give you as much notice as possible of this potential change.

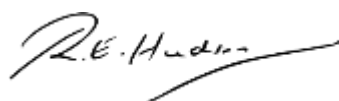
Healthy school meals, cooked on the premises, are available each day as we continue to ensure all children have access to a meal. There is a four weekly rolling menu detailing each day's main course and sweet. We also offer a vegetarian option, jacket potato or pasta option as main course.

Many families in the borough are struggling to afford the basics, but lots of children who are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) are not yet receiving them. You can check your eligibility and apply for free school meals here:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/free-school-meals>

I am aware that costs of living are increasing for everyone and this is not welcome news, but I hope you will understand this decision.

Regards,



Rachel Hudson
Headteacher