



13 December 2023

### School Meals from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents

As with all industries, our school catering provider (Cheshire East Catering) have had substantial increases in food and labour costs. Unfortunately, we have been informed that they can no longer absorb these within their business model.

Subsequently, we have been notified that the cost of a school meal charged to school will be increasing by 15%. Therefore, as a school, we have had to review our charges for school meals.

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024, the cost of a school meal for children in years 3 to 6 will be £2.80 (£14 per week). This will provide the children with a hot, nutritious meal, dessert and drink.

*Please note the cost does not apply to children on universal or income related free school meals.*

Please remember, if your circumstances have changed, you can check if you are entitled to Free School Meals. Mrs Broadrick in the office is happy to support with this check.

Free School meals are available if you meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Universal Credit with an annual earnings threshold that does not exceed £7,400.
- Income Support.
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Child Tax Credit (provided a parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual income, as assessed by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190.
- Working Tax Credit run on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

For more information please see [https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free\\_school\\_meals.aspx](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx)

We suggest you do make a claim for free school meals even if your child is in key stage 1 as the school can claim additional funding (pupil premium) to provide bespoke support for your child for children who access Income Related Free School Meals.

Kind regards

Lindsey Walsh  
Head Teacher