



07/10/2026

Re: Update to School Meal Prices

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

I am writing to let you know about an upcoming change to the cost of school meals at all our schools, effective November 1, 2026.

Why Prices Are Changing

We have worked hard to keep school meal costs as low as possible for as long as we can. However, like many households and businesses, our catering service faces ongoing increases in food and utility costs, alongside rising staff wages.

To keep serving fresh, high-quality, nutritious meals that support your children's health and learning, we must adjust our pricing.

The price for a primary school meal will increase to £2.75, and the price for a secondary student meal will increase to £2.85.

Free School Meals

Please note that this price change **does not affect** children who are eligible for free school meals:

- Children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 will continue to receive free lunches under the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme.
- Families who receive qualifying benefits (such as Universal Credit) remain entitled to benefit-related free school meals.

If your financial circumstances have changed recently, you may be eligible to claim free school meals. Please contact the school office in confidence to check your eligibility or visit your local council website.

What You Need to Do

Please ensure your account has sufficient funds updated ahead of November 1, 2026.

We do not take decisions like this lightly, and we remain committed to providing your children with balanced, enjoyable meals and excellent value. Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Yours sincerely,

Rijk van der Merwe
Commercial Director
rvdm@thwhf.org.uk