

Finance Information

ParentPay

At Selwood we ask parents to use a payment system called ParentPay; this is an online method of payment, which is like internet shopping. Parents and carers access their secure personal account with a username and password to pay for various school items using a debit or credit card. Selwood Academy do not charge for the use of this system and it is an easy, safe and convenient way to pay.

You can use ParentPay to pay for items such as:

- School dinners, snacks and drinks
- Day trips, residential trips and swimming
- Other activities such as mufti days and fundraising

By using ParentPay you can help us to manage the school income efficiently and it also provides you with a quick, worry-free way to pay for items. Please see your ParentPay letter which details the activation codes you need to be able to set up your account. Your child should receive this letter when Mr Jeffries visits your child First School. If you would like a secondary payer account for another parent, carer or family member once you have set up your main account, please contact the school.

For more information about setting up and using ParentPay go to <https://www.parentpay.com/>

Cashless Till System

Selwood uses a cashless till system in the kitchen that runs using biometrics (fingerprints) so that pupils are not required to carry cash. The system creates a code specific to the pupil's fingerprint and is a technology that is used successfully by thousands of schools around the country. Please see the Biometric FAQs information on our website for further details and make sure you complete the Google consent form in good time. Should you have any concerns or wish to discuss a possible alternative to this system please contact the school.

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Adding funds to the pupil's account via ParentPay in good time – please be aware that top-ups may not show instantly
- Monitoring the balance on the account

To complete the biometrics consent form please go to <https://forms.gle/xN3TfMJEDWnBKVY19>

Free School Meals

Is your child entitled to Free School Meals?

If you receive any of the following benefits, your child may be entitled to 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
- the guaranteed 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 - paid for 4 weeks after you 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)

How to claim Free School Meals

If you would like to find out if your child is entitled to Free School Meals the quickest way to apply is online at <https://service.somerset.gov.uk/free-school-meals> Please note that just completing the form does not entitle your child to free meals – we must have confirmation from the Entitlements Team at Somerset Council that your child has been approved as eligible. If you need any further advice, please call the Free School Meals team at Somerset Council on 0300 123 2224.

Food available to those on Free School Meals

Pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals are allocated £2.80 at lunchtime each school day for their main meal and a pudding (excludes drinks). Pupils may select from a main cooked meal, vegetarian dish, a light meal alternative, salad bar with fillings for jacket potatoes or fresh sandwiches.

Parents/carers can also top up the child's account through ParentPay to pay for extras such as snacks and drinks at morning break and lunchtime.

Uniform Claim for Free School Meals Pupils

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals you can apply to the school for a core pullover, tie and PE top from our uniform supplier. Parents can submit one claim per year per child. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals and you wish to apply for the uniform items you need please contact the school to request the link to the Google form.

Selwood Academy Activity Voucher Scheme

Selwood Academy prides itself on providing the same opportunities to all pupils; this is why we run the Selwood Academy Activity Voucher Scheme.

Each pupil who is entitled to Free School Meals and/or Pupil Premium will be eligible for a maximum of £50.00 to use on activities organised by Selwood Academy. If your child becomes entitled or joins Selwood Academy during the school year the voucher amount will be apportioned to how many months are left in the school year. Activities on the scheme include any in-school activity, day trip, residential trip balance, swimming lessons or clubs run by Selwood where a cost for participation is involved.

Please contact the school if you would like to check whether your child is entitled and how much there is on the voucher.