

18th July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

SCHOOL MEAL PRICE INCREASE EFFECTIVE 1ST SEPTEMBER 2024

We are writing to inform you of an increase to the price of a school meal from 1st September 2024. As a trust we have worked hard to ensure consistency across our school meal offering, sourcing fresh ingredients from local butchers, greengrocers, etc, improving the quality of our offering over the past two years. Our menus are seasonal and we always seek feedback on what students would like to see on upcoming menus. School meal charges have remained the same for the last two years however due to a number of price increases across our suppliers, we have no alternative but to increase the cost of our school meals moving forwards.

From 1st September 2024 the price of a school meal deal will be £2.45 per day, £12.25 per week (this includes a main meal, jacket potato, pasta pot or sandwich of the day, a dessert and a drink). We hope you will agree that the price does remain exceptionally good value and look forward to welcoming our students back to healthy, tasty meals in September. **Please note school meals are payable in advance via the My Child at School App (MCAS).** If you have never activated your MCAS account, please contact the school office and we will be able to send you an activation code. Pupils can bring cash into school to put into the machine in the dining hall but we are transitioning to cashless catering, therefore payments made via the app is preferred. If your child is eligible for Free School Meals they will continue to receive the meal deal at lunch time.

Please note, items purchased at break time are NOT included as part of the meal deal therefore they will be charged as per the current price list, so please ensure your child has money available on their account for these purchases.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

You may qualify for free school meals if your child attends a Nottinghamshire County Council School or your child attends a maintained nursery (as long as they are receiving funded early learning education before and after lunch) and you receive one of the following benefits:

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- 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 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 – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Register online by visiting www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk, the information needed to register includes:

- personal details (including national insurance number and date of birth) for you and your partner
- child's details in full including their date of birth and the school they attend

If eligible for free school meals and/or milk the council will contact parents informing you once the entitlement has been verified. We will also write to confirm the date the child's free school meals and milk will start.

Children will continue to receive free school meals and milk while parents are receiving the qualifying benefit. If you are unable to apply online please contact the council directly on 0300 500 80 80.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Hodgson', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Hodgson
Associate Principal