



School dinners 2021-2022

PLEASE READ!!

20th July 2021

Dear Parent Carer

I am writing to inform you that our catering provider, **Chartwell's**, have announced that they are increasing the price of school dinners by 8p per day to **£2.44**. So if your child is not in receipt of free school meals, this would be the new daily cost from September.

As a school, we do not think that this is fair or acceptable. We do not believe that this is value for money and that it disadvantages many working parents. As many of you will know, most schools in Liverpool are able to charge no more than £2 per day.

As a PFI school, we unfortunately have no control over the catering contract and cannot seek a new provider. However, we recognise the importance of a nutritious hot meal for all children and the obvious benefits this brings.

Therefore, we have decided to subsidise the price of meals from schools funds so that the cost to each child will be reduced to **just £2 per day!**

This will cost school several thousands of pounds this year. But we feel that this is a price worth paying for the benefit of our children and families. However, over the summer will be continuing to raise complaints to Chartwell's, Liverpool City Council and beyond about the unfairness of these prices.

FINALLY... A reminder: free school meals must be applied for every single year. If your child was entitled to free school meals last year, you must reapply again this year. If you haven't applied before or your circumstances have changed, you can also apply:

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/free-school-meals/>

In addition to being entitled to a free meal each day, school receives additional funding called 'Pupil Premium' which we use very carefully to help our children. You can see how we spend this additional money here:

<https://www.middlefieldcommunityprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Pupil+Premium&pid=85>

So even if you do not wish your child to have a free meal, we would be incredibly grateful if you would complete the application- as a school will spend every penny we receive to the benefit of our children! All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically receive a free school dinner, but without you completing the application form, we are unable to access the additional funding that our children are entitled to!

Yours Sincerely

Mr David Potter

Head Teacher