



Tuesday 3rd October, 2023

School Meals Update

Dear Families,

Following several queries I thought it would be useful to update you on a few points regarding school meal provision.

Breakfast Facilities

- All pupils can access the dining hall between 7.45am and 8.40am to purchase breakfast.

Lunch Time Routines

- Over lunchtime pupils can access either the school dining hall or our outside dining area [The Pod]. Pupils have free choice of where to go.
- For the dining hall we operate a rota which determines the year group that is admitted first; all year groups take a turn on the first lunch to make it fair!
- If pupils are attending a club or intervention, we encourage them to use The Pod or they can ask for a first dinner pass from their teacher.

Meal Choice

- We strongly recommend that pupils opt for the daily meal deal. This is by far the best value at £2.95 for a hot meal, drink and desert. Other grab and go options are available, the full range can be found on our website.
- Pupils can bring a packed lunch to school but will still be asked to line up with their year group on the rota system.

Free School Meals

- If you are unsure whether your child may be eligible for free school meals, please contact school reception for further advice.
- All FSM pupils receive a daily allowance of £2.95. Again, we strongly encourage pupils to select the meal deal.
- Please note that if pupils choose to spend some of their allowance in the dining hall before school, they will need to make a sensible decision at lunchtime to ensure they do not spend more than their set allowance.
- Parents can, of course, add additional funds to their child's account.



Daily Spend Cap

- We are aware that many parents like to keep track of their child's daily spend, you can do this via the Parent Pay app or online account.
- To support parents in managing their child's weekly allowance there is a set daily spend of £4.50.

Debt Recovery

- No child will ever be refused a meal if they have insufficient funds on their account; they will always be offered the set meal deal.
- In addition, if you are in a position where funding your child's school meals is difficult please get in touch, we will always try to support you where possible.
- When pupils do get into debt the school will contact you via email to remind you to top up your account as soon as possible. If the debt remains on your account, you will be contacted by the school via telephone to discuss this further. We will work with parents who may be finding it difficult to manage their account, please contact your child's Head of House if you require any specific support.

As always please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Kind regards

Mrs J Turner
Head Teacher