



LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD



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Dear Parents

Notification of school meal price increase

You may be aware from the press coverage that schools are facing financial difficulties at the moment. The Government say that they have protected the education budget, but this just means we get the same amount per pupil that we got five years ago. This sum does not take into account the rate of inflation, the costs of everything increasing (sometimes by as much as 9%), or the increases to National Insurance and pension contributions (which have cost us upwards of £80,000).

We are doing everything we can to ensure that the school continues to run smoothly

You may not be aware that the school is charged £2.50 for each school meal. We receive a grant for the infant school meals, however, the DfE only give £2.30 per meal which leaves a shortfall of 20p per child per day. At the present time, Infant classes (reception, year 1 and year 2) will continue to be eligible for UIFSM (Universal Infant Free School Meals).

For Juniors, we have charged parents £2.30 per meal, but again we are charged £2.50 which again leaves a substantial shortfall. Depending on numbers of children having school dinners, the combined shortfall is around £35000. This, along with increasing costs has a huge impact on our school budget.

Following a recent Finance meeting of the Governing Body, it was agreed that we will have to increase the price of school meals for Junior children. The price per day for Years 3-6 will be £2.55, as we are no longer in a financial position to subsidise the shortfall. We also have additional costs this year with the implementation of a new till system which the school is required to fund. This change will take effect from Tuesday 4th September. We regret having to make this decision but the alternative will adversely affect the quality of education we are able to provide to the children. This is in line with other Enfield schools

Please note that if your financial circumstances change, you may be eligible for free school meals (FSM). Please



contact the school office or click on the link below for a form:

<https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/children-and-education/school-welfare-and-information/school-meals/>

If you are eligible for free school meals (any year group) please inform the school as it is a valuable source of funding for your child.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul O'Rourke
Headteacher