

**Department of Corporate
Resources**

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Date: 20th September 2024

The Headteacher

Secondary Schools

Copy to: Business Manager

Dear Colleague,

NOTIFICATION OF NEW SCHOOL MEALS PRICES FROM NOVEMBER 2024

I am writing to inform you that in keeping with previous years and as was mentioned in my last communication in March 24, a review of all school meal prices has now been undertaken.

The outcome of this review is that, from Monday 4th November 2024, the minimum standard school meal prices will be as follows:

	PRICE (per meal)
Pupil Set Meal	£2.80
Adult Set Meal (inc VAT)	£3.36

Over the last couple of years we have continued to see a minimum 25% increase in meal ingredient costs and at least an additional 8% increase in labour costs, with the latter being mainly due to rises in the living wage. Yet despite these huge inflationary pressures, FM Catering have continued to minimise their impact by improving our efficiency and maintaining high meal uptake levels.

School meal prices in the Bradford district still remain amongst the lowest in the country and are excellent value for money for a nutritionally balanced 2 course set lunch. This paid meal price rise will benefit schools by:

- Increasing the paid meal income
- Reducing the net cost of the catering service
- Helping to keep down future contract charges / increases to schools

An additional rise in April 2025 may also be required in order to continue keeping pace with inflation. By taking these recommended small staggered approaches in line with the school menu changes, the burden to families struggling in the current climate will hopefully be minimised.

Individual item price rises have also been kept to a minimum wherever possible. All meal deals have been reviewed as has the food offer provided to pupils. Exciting new menu items have been created ready for the new term launch. Full details will be available regarding the new offer in time for the 4th November start date.

Please could you inform parents of this increase and include, if possible, details of the Benefits Service (01274 432771/2/3) to help ensure that those who qualify for free meal entitlement will take up that option.

If you require any further information or clarification, please contact me using the numbers above.

Yours faithfully



Craig Webb

Business ICT Systems & Information Manager
Facilities Management

