

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Date: March 2025

NOTIFICATION OF NEW SCHOOL MEALS PRICES FROM APRIL 2025

I am writing to inform you that in keeping with previous years a review of all school meal prices has now been undertaken.

The outcome of this review is that, from Monday 21st April 2025, the recommended minimum standard school meal prices will be as follows:

	PRICE (per meal)
Nursery	£2.25
Primary	£2.45

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. The National Insurance threshold change, applicable from April 2025, has added increased unexpected pressures this year. Despite all of these huge inflationary pressures, FM Catering have continued to minimise their impact by improving our efficiency and maintaining high meal uptake levels.

Even with this price increase, school meals 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. Our neighbouring authorities, Leeds City Council & Kirklees Council, currently charge £2.70 and £2.75 respectively for a Primary school lunch. The new Bradford recommended price is still somewhat behind these, something which we are keen to maintain going forward.

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.

Yours faithfully

Facilities Management
Catering Services

