



# WHITMORE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Halford Lane

Coventry

CV6 2HG

Telephone: 02476335697

Headteacher: Mrs McGibney

Email: [admin@whitmorepark.org](mailto:admin@whitmorepark.org)

Website: <http://www.whitmorepark.org/>

Twitter: @whitmore\_park

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

## School Meals from September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

From September 2023, our school meal provider, Solihull Catering have increased the cost of a school meal from £2.30 to £2.70 to reflect the increase in their costs. However, in light of the current financial climate, the school and Governors have made the decision to partly subsidise the increase for this year, so that the full cost is not passed on to families.

**This will mean that the cost of a school meal will increase from £2.30 to £2.50 from September 2023.**

Children currently in years Reception – Year 2 receive Universal Free School Meals. **If your child is moving up to year 3 in September then they will no longer be entitled to these.** The meals will be charged at £2.50 a day which should be payable in advance.

## Applying for Means Tested Free School Meals

If you have not already applied for means tested free school meals and you fit any of the criteria below, please ensure that you apply as soon as possible by visiting [www.coventry.gov.uk/applyforfreeschoolmeals](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/applyforfreeschoolmeals) or, if you do not have access to the internet, you can pick up a paper form from the school office and we can submit the application on your behalf.

Your child will be able to get Free School Meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household earnings must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Any child who becomes eligible for Free School Meals between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2023 will remain entitled to a Free School Meal regardless of any change in parental income until they finish the phase of education they are in (primary or secondary) as of 31 March 2023.

#### Free School Meals - No recourse to public funds

Your child will be able to get Free School Meals if you fall into one of the following eligible groups

- Zambiano carers
- families who have no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are also subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Chen carers
- families holding a BN(O) passport
- spousal visa holders
- work visa holders
- student visa holders
- those with no immigration status

You will also need to evidence that your annual household income is below

- £22,700 for families with 1 child
- £26,300 for families with 2 or more children

In addition to these thresholds, families must hold no more than £16,000 in capital and savings.

Until you receive confirmation from Coventry City Council that your child is entitled to free school meals you will be required to pay for school meals.

From September 2023, all school meals should be pre booked on the new Parent Portal/app, 'My Child at School' (MCAS). Further information about this will follow. This ensures that the kitchen has prior knowledge of the amount of meals per day and to ensure your child can have their first choice of school meal. Even if you make your child a packed lunch at home to bring into school this also be selected on the MCAS App. If you do not pre book your child's meal this takes learning time away in the classroom in the morning, as the teacher has to book your child's meal.

We thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs J. McGibney  
Head Teacher