



Monday 10th July 2023

Dear Parent / Carers,

We know that many families within our school community are struggling with the rising costs of living, especially the increased cost of fuel and food and the removal of the Universal Credit Uplift.

In March 2023 we wrote to all our families and outlined that our school meal costs had historically been subsidised to keep the price low, but regrettably, due to circumstances beyond our control we would have to increase this cost in April and potentially again in September 2023.

Harden Primary School currently charges £2.25 for a school meal. Unfortunately, from 4th September 2023 we have no option but to increase the price of a school meal. At this stage, the increase is still below the current cost of inflation and rising food costs that we pay our suppliers.

- For Harden Primary pupils, the current cost of a school meal is £2.25
- From 4th September 2023 this will increase to £2.40

Are you eligible for Free School Meals?

We want to support our families in any way that we can and so if your circumstances have changed, or perhaps you haven't done it previously, and you would like to check if your child qualifies for free school meals, please contact our school office who will provide you with the relevant paperwork or you can do this via the Bradford Council website:

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits/applying-for-benefits/free-school-meals/>

You can apply for school meals if you receive:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £16,190, provided they are not receiving Working Tax Credit



- the 'Guaranteed' element of the State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income threshold of less than £7,400

Whilst all children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 receive a free school meal, it is still important to check if you are eligible. All children who are eligible for Free school meals are also eligible for an **annual school uniform voucher** and Harden Primary receives pupil premium funding of £1,345 per year per child. This money goes directly towards the education your child is receiving at school.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours Sincerely,

Kirsty Hutchinson
Executive Headteacher

Leanne Ruddock
Head of School