



Learning and Caring Together,
“...they will flourish in the courts of our God.” (Psalm 92:13)

20th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

School Meal Price – 1st April 2024

Edwards and Ward have communicated to us that, with the worsening of the economic climate, they are facing some serious challenges in terms of delivering a cost effective, nutritious meal each day for our children.

The increasing levels of food inflation have reached, at some points in the year over 19%. The latest annual CPI inflation figure for food (and non-alcoholic beverages) at the time of writing this letter is 9.2% and you will also be aware that the National Living Wage will increase by 9.8% to £11.44 in April 2024.

Whilst they are working hard to mitigate the impact of these where they can, some challenges are entirely outside of their control and have, therefore, forced them to review the price of school meals.

Energy Costs

The academy already subsidises the cost of each meal in the form of gas and electric to prepare and cook the food. By way of explanation, the academy pays a set price per meal which includes the purchase of the ingredients and staff time in the preparation of the meals. With energy prices remaining high (the academy does not benefit from the Government's price cap) this will be an additional cost to the meal which we will not be passing onto you.

Raising the price of a school meal at this time is the last thing we want to do, however the cost to the academy has risen by further 8p per meal and the budget, which is always extremely stretched, is simply unable to absorb the increase which we will be charged next month. Therefore, the cost per meal to those who pay for a school meal (Yr. 3 and Yr4) will increase to £2.95 on the 1st April 2024.


I am truly reluctant to have to pass on the cost of the rise to you but our hands are tied, however if you wish to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Yours sincerely



Mrs S Machin

Principal

