

18s October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Free School Meals

From 31 October 2022 the value of a Free School Meal is increasing to £2.80. This is as a result of the increased cost of providing meals and is a value set by Hampshire County Council. Our meal deal will be priced at £2.80 in line with this county-wide change. It remains good value with a main dish, dessert and drink.

Break time prices for our 'grab and go' items are not changing and are better value than any other school we know about. Other food and drink items are available for sale each day.

A free breakfast subsidised by the school with support through the Magic Breakfast programme is available every day from 8.00am alongside items for sale that are not part of the Magic Breakfast arrangements.

We continue to provide MUNCH meals each Tuesday and Thursday from 4.00pm to 5.30 pm, and our Park Pantry is available to help families. It is supported by Hampshire County Council and a range of food providers and charities. The Pantry is based in our Dickinson Centre and open Monday to Friday 11.00am to 2.30 p.m.

A reminder that a child is eligible for free school meals if their parent or carer receives one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Job Seekers' Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, and have an annual gross income, of no more than £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (Parents who are made redundant or start working less than 16 hours per week, may find their children are entitled to free meals for a limited period.)

/continued overleaf





- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

To check your child's eligibility for continued free school meals), you can use the online checking facility at [Online FSM Application \(cloudforedu.org.uk\)](https://cloudforedu.org.uk)

There has been debate in the media about the fairness of the current eligibility system and should the rules around entitlement change we will be in touch.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Anders'.

Christopher Anders
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ella Capaldi'.

Ella Capaldi
Head of School