



ELVINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Working Together We Can All Achieve Success'

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Headteacher – Mr. Andrew Buttery BA (HONS), PGCE, NPQH

Sunday 21st August 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have received notification from our catering supplier that school meal charges are to increase from the beginning of September 2022. School meals are currently priced at £2.30 per meal. From September, this will rise to £3.09 per meal - an increase of 79p per day. Families accessing Free School Meals are unaffected, as are children in Reception (EYFS), Year 1 and Year 2.

The increase is in response to rising supplier costs and we understand many schools, both locally and nationally, find themselves in a similar position. We appreciate that in the current climate, any unplanned increase in household costs will be unwelcome news for all families. We have explored several alternate options, but unfortunately to subsidise school meals from other areas of our stretched budget would mean that money available for teaching and learning would be considerably impacted. This issue is further compounded by a change to funding schools receive to provide Free School Meals. We have written to our MP to raise our significant concerns.

We are currently undertaking an exercise to explore how our provision compares with other schools across the locality in terms of both cost and quality. As a school, we have a legal obligation to provide school meals to pupils and we want to ensure that any additional costs incurred represent good value for our families. Parents and carers are obviously also welcome to provide packed lunches for your child/children.

This is also a timely moment to remind all parents/carers that if you are in receipt of certain benefits, then your child may be eligible for a free school meal during term time (for more information, please visit [Eligibility for free school meals – City of York Council](#)). If you have any questions or would appreciate additional information or help in completing an application, please contact the school office. If you are experiencing difficulties in relation to these increasing costs, please do contact the Headteacher in complete confidence and we will provide support and signpost to further assistance.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Ellis
Chair of Governors
On behalf of Governing Board

Andrew Buttery
Headteacher



“I have come in order that you may have life – life in all its fullness.” John 10:10