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ML/DJS

27 April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Catering costs from September 2023

The Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership Trust has been reviewing the catering service over the last few weeks and has come to the inevitable conclusion that costs will have to rise in order to meet increasing food, transport and staffing pressures.

Please be assured that every attempt has been made to keep any increases to a minimum, whilst maintaining a high quality and nutritious catering service.

With effect from 1 September 2023

- From September, paid meal deals will increase to £3.00. Other menu items will increase by approximately 10%.
- For eligible students, the daily Free School Meal (FSM) allowance will increase to £3.20.

Those students entitled to a free school meal will have £3.20 from 1 September 2023 to spend at lunch service each day. This provides a main meal, drink, and either fruit or dessert. Please note that any unspent amounts are not carried forward to subsequent days. There is also a free to use water cooler in the Refectory, available to all students.

We encourage all eligible families to apply for Free School Meals (FSM). As well as the reassurance that an eligible student is receiving a healthy, nutritious meal every day, FSM eligibility can also open up other avenues of financial support.

To see if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please visit https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals.

To support the Trust's policy on maintaining cashless schools, all purchases in the Refectory need to be made via a student's catering account with funds credited via ParentPay. No cash will be handled by the catering staff. Any parent who requires a reminder of the initial details required to set up their ParentPay facility should email office@bucklersmeadacademy.com and we shall be pleased to reissue your codes.

Yours sincerely

MR M LAWRENCE Headteacher

