

Cashless School Lunches

Why can't we use cash for school meals?

As part of the Scottish Government's advice and guidance to help reduce the spread of coronavirus our families and staff are being asked to reduce cash handling as part of the school's risk assessment.

During the 2020/21 school year we will be introducing an online payment system to make it easier for parents and carers to pay for all school activities including school meals.

This will however take a bit of time to roll out across our schools and nurseries. As a short term solution we have organised for schools to use a bank transfer system for the online payment of school meals.

Please be reassured that no child or young person will be left without a meal – the school will contact families to allow them to catch up on the payment.

Free School Meals

Children and young people whose families meet the criteria for free school meal entitlement will continue to receive a breakfast and school meals with no change. You can find out more information at <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolsandlearning>

How Payments can be made

From the 17 August our schools will no longer be able to accept cash for school meals to reduce the potential spread of the virus.

Parents will be given the bank details where money can be transferred for the advance payment of their child's school meals.

Families who don't have a bank account can visit a bank and pay in person over the counter – they will need to take the council's bank account details and their unique reference to be able to transfer.

Parents can choose to purchase a set number of meals. To reduce the administration it would be very helpful to purchase in sets that are equivalent to weekly, monthly, etc. However, we recognise that this may not always be possible.

Payment Rates are £1.90 per day and calculations of weekly, monthly and term cost are below, based on attending 5 days per week.

If your child only needs a school lunch two or three days a week then you should try to purchase in multiples as indicated below as they are not day or date specific and will roll over each week during term. You can also adjust this throughout the term.

Primary schools:

Period	No of Days	Cost	Period	2 meals/ week	Cost	3 meals/ week	Cost
£1.90		5 meals/ week	£1.90				
1 week	5	£9.50	17 Aug to 8 Oct	16	£30.40	24	£45.60
4 weeks	20	£38.00	19 Oct to 18 Dec	18	£34.20	27	£51.30
To October Break	37	£70.30	4th Jan to 5th Feb	10	£19.00	15	£28.50
Term 1	84	£159.60	8th Feb to 1st Apr	16	£30.40	24	£45.60
Term 2	58	£110.20	19th Apr to 24 June	20	£38.00	30	£57.00
Term 3	45	£85.50					
Full Year	187	£355.30					

17th August to 8th October is 8 weeks

19th October to 18th December is 9 weeks

4th January to 5th February is 5 weeks

8th February to 1st April is 8 weeks

19th April to 24th June is 10 weeks

The ready reckoner is to assist you. The 5 meals/week takes into account holidays and in-service days. Breakfast costs can be similarly calculated.

Breakfasts

Period	No of Days	Child 1 (£2)	Child 2 + (£1)
1 week	5	£10	£5
4 weeks	20	£40	£20
To October Break	37	£74	£37
Term 1	84	£168	£84
Term 2	58	£116	£58
Term 3	45	£90	£45
Full Year	187	£374	£187

Rate = £1.90 per day

Rate = Child 1 £2

Child 2+ £1 per child

Term 1 17 Aug - 22 Dec inc
 To October Break 17 Aug - 8 Oct inc
 Term 2 6 Jan - 1 Apr inc
 Term 3 19 Apr - 24 June inc

What happens if my child doesn't attend every day for the time I've paid for?

The school will keep a record of the meals taken. The money you've paid will roll on to the next school day your child takes school meals.

How does the school keep a track of what I've paid for my child?

You should contact your school to tell them that you would like to pre pay your child's school meals.

The school will give you a unique reference number (s) that you need to use when transferring the money.

The school will send you a confirmation email with your child (s) reference number that can be used each time you transfer money to the school.

Each reference number is 13 digits long and for ease an L for lunch and B for breakfast/morning will be part of the number and unique to your child.

A reference number will be supplied for both breakfast/morning and lunch provision depending on what you are buying.

Each reference number should clearly identify what your child uses and will enable the school to keep track of what the balance is should your child miss either breakfast or lunch one day.

What if I don't have access to online banking or have a bank account?

Families should contact their school to discuss any problems that they might have using this interim process and the school will be able to help find a solution.

Payment can be made in person at a branch of any bank if they have all the correct council bank details and their child's 13 digit reference number and they can pay by cash.

Why have we introduced this system?

The point of reducing cash handling for both pupils and staff is to help suppress and reduce the spread of coronavirus and part of the Scottish Government's guidance on the full time return to schools and nurseries.