

Dear Parent,

As you may know the council took the decision on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020 to incorporate “full cost recovery for school meals”. The school meal service is subsidised by the council and due to extreme financial pressures can no longer sustain this level of costs.

When COVID hit in March 2020 the service postponed the increase which should have happened on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. The price increase will now be applicable from 26th October and the new price of a 2 course primary school meal will be £3.00 and the price of a secondary school 2 course meal will be £3.05. A 3% annual inflationary rise will be incorporated thereafter.

The new school meal price still represents value for money and cannot be compared to the previous subsidised price. Both the Primary and the Secondary meal price includes a two course lunch. In a primary school the choice is soup and main course plus water or milk or a main course and sweet treat plus water or milk. Also to reassure parents that the school meal service has worked hard to provide a safe working environment and staff are working to COVID 19 protocols.

Your child may be entitled to free school meal and essential clothing grant. You can check your benefits and how your application is processed via the council's website at <https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=5452>

**ALL Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils** are automatically entitled to receive a free school meal but must be included in your application form.

You can also download the **Free School Meals & Clothing Grant application form** from the website details above.

If your application for Free School Meals is accepted then the school will be notified immediately.

If you require further information on Free School Meals application please contact

Free School Meals  
Dalziel Building  
Ground Floor  
7 Scott Street  
Motherwell  
ML1 1SX  
**Phone:** 01698 403203

Yours sincerely

**Anne Hanlon**  
**Business Manager**  
**Facility Support Services.**