



**Education Resources / Community & Enterprise Resources**  
Interim Executive Director **Anne Donaldson** / Executive Director **David Booth**  
**Support Services and Facilities Services**

Parent/Carer of

**Our ref:**

**Your ref:**

**If calling ask for:** School Office

**Phone:**

**Date:** February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

**School Meals : NEC/YoungScot Card – ParentPay – Fusion App**

As your child is due to transition to secondary school in August, we wanted to give you some information about how they will access school meals. The NEC/YoungScot card, ParentPay and the Fusion App are all interlinked.

The NEC (National Entitlement Card) is your child's access to library services, YoungScot benefits, U22 Free Bus Travel and is used as a payment card for cashless school meals. In preparation for your child starting secondary school, a NEC application form and photograph is required before the card is produced. Your primary school will issue this to you following the February Break, via ParentsPortal – if you have not linked your child to ParentsPortal, please use the link at the bottom of the letter to register.

All pupils will have their photograph taken which will be used on their new NEC/YoungScot Card. Once the school applies for the new card, it will be delivered to your home address within 7 working days. Those pupils who already have a Junior NEC card, Transport Scotland has advised this will expire 7 days after the school has submitted the application for the new NEC/YoungScot card. When your child starts secondary school their NEC card will then be linked to their ParentPay account to allow it to work as a cashless card. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, then the daily meal allowance is automatically added to the NEC card.

You will be aware of ParentPay from your primary school as the cashless system operated across all South Lanarkshire Council schools for the purchase of school meals, trips, etc. Your account at primary school does not transfer automatically to the secondary school and therefore you will be issued with a new activation letter to link your child to their secondary school. This not only allows your child to purchase a school meal, but it is also the only way you will be able to pay for other activities, e.g. Home Economics, football fixtures. It is therefore important to link your child to the secondary school.

A new activation letter will be sent to you via email prior to the start of term in August from the secondary school. If you do not have an email address then the letter will be posted to your home

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Helpline: 0303 123 1023 Email: [edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)



address. This will allow you to log-on to your ParentPay account and link your child to their secondary school. For your child to take a school meal then you just need to add money to their ParentPay account. Money can also be added to their account via PayPoint and the secondary school office will be able to provide you with a barcode to allow you to do this at any PayPoint facility.

The Fusion App was introduced in 2020 for secondary school pupils and has been a great success. The Fusion App allows your child to pre-order morning snack and lunch, thus eliminating the need to queue at the servery at break or lunch times. There is a dedicated collection point for Fusion App pre-orders – so it's just 'click and collect'. Similar to ParentPay you will receive an email prior to the start of term in August from the secondary school with your on-boarding code. All your child needs to do is download the Fusion Online App onto their mobile phone, register for an account and pop in the on-boarding code. Their ParentPay account just needs to be in credit and they are then ready to place an order.

For full details of the secondary lunch service please visit South Lanarkshire Council website, just type into the search bar "school lunches" and go to secondary schools for all the details, see link [Secondary schools - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

Your child will also be issued with a PIN number for their NEC when they start secondary school, please ensure this number is kept safe and secure and not shared with anyone else.

We hope this gives you a bit of information regarding school meals at secondary school. The letters you will receive regarding NEC, ParentPay and the Fusion App will go into more detail of the actions you need to take to set each up.

Yours faithfully



**David Hinshelwood**  
**Support Services Manager**  
**Education Resources**



**Anne Goldie**  
**Facilities Services Manager**  
**Community & Enterprise Resources**