

CANON POPHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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21 March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Increase in Cost of School Meals

We have held our price for school meals at Canon Popham CofE (VA) Primary & Nursery School very successfully for over six years now at £2.00 per lunch.

However, despite our best efforts the price of £2.00 does not enable us to cover the total cost of the school meals at the School, and we have just been informed that prices are rising again. This means that we must raise the cost of school meals. We have not taken this decision lightly in view of the current economic crisis, but unfortunately to subsidise school meals from other areas of our already stretched budget would mean that money available for teaching and learning would be impacted - affecting every pupil in the school.

As a result, we have taken the decision that the price of a school meal will increase to £2.50 per meal from April 2018. This represents the cost charged to the school; no profit is made on school meal charges. We feel that given the quality of the meal and the options available that this still represents good value for money – it is less than the cost of a child's meal at a local fast food restaurant.

Please note that this change will not affect those who are entitled to free school meals through the Universal Free School Meals programme in Reception and in Years 1 and 2. It will also not affect children in Key Stage 2 who have access to free school meals.

However, we understand that this may cause hardship for some families, and if you feel this will affect your family, then we would urge to check if your family would be entitled to free school meals by either going online to the DMBC website at <http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/free-school-meals> or by contacting the school office. All queries will be handled confidentially; we do not want ANY child to miss out on a school meal through the price increase.

Incidentally, if your family would be entitled to free school meals but you have chosen not to make an application, there are other additional benefits to making an application and we would encourage you to do so using the methods shown above.

Finally, if your child currently has school dinners and you would now prefer them to have a packed lunch, then the school office will (as an exception for this term only) allow amendments to dinner choices until Friday 13th April 2018. You will still be asked to pay for any school dinners your child has. Please note that this must be done through the official office channels – please do not use the Parent Forum to do this as it will not be actioned. This can be by phone or email.

Yours sincerely,

Canon Popham CofE (VA) Primary & Nursery School Governing Body

