

Community Services, Environment & Culture Catering & Building Cleaning Services Cowpen Depot Cowpen Lane Billingham **TS23 4DD** 

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Date: 14/7/25

Dear Headteacher

## **RE: SCHOOL CATERING MEAL PRICE INCREASE**

I am writing to inform you of some changes to your current School Catering paid meal charges.

Following the Fees and Charges Review undertaken by the council on school catering, which was presented to Cabinet and implementation was agreed to commence 1st January, 2025 hence the increase of paid meals at the beginning of the new year.

As you are aware, we have seen a significant increase in food prices and pay awards over the last few years. This has meant the cost of delivering the school meal provision has increased so much, that the income generated no longer covers the true cost.

We must move towards an increased income solution, to cover our operating costs and I am sure you are all aware of the pressures we are all under in the current financial climate.

Therefore, with effect from 1st September, 2025 your pupil paid meal price will increase to £3.20 per day, £16 per week. Adult meals increase to £3.70.

It was agreed at Cabinet that we will only be increasing meals from September this year and then annually at the same time moving forward, if required.

Yours sincerely,

**ANITA BROWN** SERVICE MANAGER

**CATERING & BUILDING CLEANING SERVICES** 

TO: HEADTEACHERS OF MAINTAINED SCHOOLS