



3rd December 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

We know that many families within our school community are struggling with the rising costs of living. Over the last 12 months we have kept the price of a school meal fixed, but regrettably due to huge inflationary pressures caused by a minimum 25% increase in meal ingredient costs and an increase in labour costs, we will have to increase this cost from the 1st January 2025.

The increase is still below the current cost of inflation and rising food costs that we pay our suppliers and is still below what most other Bradford schools are charging.

- For Cottingley Village Primary pupils, the current cost of a school meal is £2.20
- From 1st January 2025 this will increase to £2.30

Are you eligible for Free School Meals?

We want to support our families in any way that we can and so if your circumstances have changed, or perhaps you haven't done it previously, and you would like to check if your child qualifies for free school meals, please contact your school office who will provide you with the relevant paperwork or you can do this via the Bradford Council website:

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits/applying-for-benefits/free-school-meals/>

You can apply for school meals if you receive:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £16,190, provided they are not receiving Working Tax Credit
- the 'Guaranteed' element of the State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income threshold of less than £7,400

Whilst all children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 receive a free school meal, it is still important to check if you are eligible.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Kirsty Hutchinson
Head Teacher