



19<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware, across the country, we are all facing rising costs for fuel, food and other items and these costs are continuing to increase rapidly. We have always worked hard at Brooke Weston Trust to ensure the meals we provide remain competitively priced for our families. Last year, for example, our meal increases were only 5p per meal, representing an increase of approximately £19 for a full year.

Primary children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 continue to benefit from the free school meals under the government's Universal Free School Meals scheme.

We have seen food price increases due to Inflation for food and non-alcoholic drinks reach 19.1% in April, according to the Office of National Statistics, with many core items at 30% or more. We have made the decision that whilst we will not pass the full cost of these food price increases onto our families, we must increase our prices. We will therefore be implementing a price rise of **10%** on all our meals, representing a weekly increase of £1.95 per week if both breakfast and lunch are taken 5 days per week effective from 1 September 2023.

This modest increase will ensure we can continue to deliver a high-quality service, providing healthy, nutritious meals, catering for allergens and dietary requirements; served in a safe and inviting environment. We will continue to work with our suppliers to minimize our costs and seek further opportunities to save money whilst maintaining our high standards.

You may also be entitled to apply for free school meals for your children if you receive one of the following income related benefits:

- Income support
- Income based job seekers allowance
- Income related employment and support allowance
- Child tax credit combined with a both a household income below £16,190 per annum and not in receipt of any working tax credit
- Support under part VI one of the immigration and asylum act 1999
- Guarantee element of state pension credit
- Universal Credit as an annual household earnings of less than £7400

If you require further information, please contact the school office who will be able to assist you in completing a free school meal eligibility check.

Yours sincerely

Theresa Jackson, Head of Catering

Company Number: 02400784  
Registered Name: The Brooke Weston Trust  
VAT Number: 120 4612 66

