

9 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Reminder: Local Authority Letter – Catering meal cost increase for 2020/21

As you will be aware, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council (RCBC) oversees elements of several local PFI schools, including Outwood Academy Normanby. Catering, caretaking and cleaning services are therefore provided by a facilities management company called Robertson FM. RCBC have been working with this current facilities provider since February 2018. Prior to this the provider was Carillion FM.

We wrote to you back in July 2019, advising that Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council were working to bring the school meal prices back in line with the original PFI project requirements, when the brand new PFI schools were built in 2006. It is important to note that since 2014, the price of the catering services provided at the PFI schools had not increased as it should have, in line with the original PFI contract signed and agreed by RCBC.

In September 2019, there was a lower than intended increase in school meal prices, due to a subsidy from RCBC, and this was to give the local authority time to assess their options and lessen the initial impact of meal price increases on our local community.

As per the details in the letter from July 2019, I wanted to remind you that from 20 April 2020, the meal price for all students increased to £2.54. (This relates to the 'Meal of the Day' option only). Due to the Covid-19 situation however, the impact of this has been minimal on students, and I am pleased that RCBC have chosen to underwrite this cost difference during current school closures.

Please be aware however that the biometric and payment methods will be adjusted to reflect this new price increase, from 1 June 2020.

Students entitled to free school meals will not be affected. For secondary school meals, there remain different meal options such as sandwiches, paninis and pasta as an alternative to the 'Meal of the Day' option.

I am assured that RCBC have reviewed this price increase in line with charges levied by other local authorities in PFI schools and that they continue to work with the service provider to ensure that we are able to offer good quality meal options for all students attending our academy.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter, it is appreciated.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Wappat
Principal