

18<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

**School Meal Charges – September 2023**

I am writing to inform you that, regrettably from the start of the new academic year in September, there will be an increase to school meal prices.

For Y3 to Y6 meal prices will increase to £3.10, and Nursery meal prices will increase to £2.40

We have kept the increase to an absolute minimum, meaning that the meals will continue to be subsidised by the Collegiate, with the cost of providing the meal remaining in excess of the increased price charged to parents and carers, so we are still making a loss on the meals even after the price increase.

Food inflation has been in the region of 25% - 60% over the past years on certain common food items. The volatility within commodity prices has many causes including, but not limited to: large increases in energy costs (business energy costs not being capped), transport costs, shipping and the rising costs of labour. Suppliers have passed these costs onto us and we can only absorb so much of the food increases, given the other significant financial pressures facing us. We are still making a loss on the meals even after the price increase.

The provision of Universal Free School Meals for Reception to Year 2 remains unchanged.

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, there will continue to not be a charge. Should you believe your child may be eligible for Free School Meals, please ensure the office have your signed permission form so that we can check their eligibility on your behalf.

If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Clowes  
Principal