Edenfield C E Primary School

28th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

For many years, we have tried to keep the cost of school lunches as low as possible for our families, even though this has meant we have provided this service at a loss. However in line with LCC recommendation we now have no choice but to increase the cost from £2.20 to £2.40 from Tuesday 19th April (summer term). This price rise will be reflected on ParentPay. The weekly cost for school lunches will now be £12.00.

The main reasons for the price increase are as follows:

- Direct Labour Costs (with the increase to the Foundation Living Wage)
- Food Costs (food inflation remains volatile)

The new menu for the summer term has been planned with the ***School Food Plan*** in mind and is aligned with the government's food-based standards, the ***Soil Association Food for Life Silver Award*** and the ***Sugarwise*** standard.

The ***Soil Association Food for Life Served Here*** standard awards food providers for making positive impacts through food. They certify caterers for providing meals cooked from scratch, using fresh and sustainable ingredients that can be traced back to the farm. The ***Sugarwise*** catering mark on school menus means that the menus provide options that are low in "free sugars". These are sugars and sweeteners that need to be limited in the diet because they are contributors to childhood obesity and tooth decay. The catering service will also continue to monitor the macro and micronutrient content of menus.

Therefore the cost for school lunches still represents very good value for money. The school is proud of the standard of food on offer as we are fortunate to provide on-site staff and kitchen facilities, enabling freshly prepared food on site every day.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

C.L. Garner