



HIGHER FAILSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs S Forster **Chair of Governors:** Mr A Pass

June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Increase to School Dinner Prices from 3rd September 2026

We are writing to advise that, unfortunately, the cost of school meals will be increasing from the start of the new academic year.

Since bringing the school meal service in-house, we are proud of the improvements we have made to the service, and we are pleased that the number of children taking a school meal has increased. We continue to work hard to provide a high-quality, diverse and nutritionally balanced menu at the lowest possible cost. However, we have been absorbing rising costs for some time and are no longer able to continue to do so.

As a result of ongoing financial pressures, the price of a school meal will increase to **£3.00 per day from 3rd September 2026**. This means that the weekly charge for school meals will increase from **£13.50 to £15.00 per week**.

We would like to remind parents/carers that dinner money must be paid in advance, at least weekly, although it can also be paid fortnightly or monthly in advance if this is more convenient for you via ParentPay.

A number of significant dinner money debts have accrued over the past year, which the school cannot afford to cover. If dinner money is not paid for more than two weeks, you may be asked to provide your child with a packed lunch until the debt is cleared.

This change does not affect pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals. However, we would encourage eligible families to ensure their claim is kept up to date. If your circumstances have changed and you think you may now be eligible for Free School Meals, you can check and apply online at:

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/education_grants_and_allowances/161/free_school_meals

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Forster

Headteacher