

Ref: OB-240626-044

BY EMAIL: All Parents/Carers – DNEAT primary academies

24 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update on Paid School Meal Prices – Effective September 2026

With effect from the beginning of the next term (3rd September 2026), the cost of paid school meals will increase slightly from £2.80 to £2.90 per meal.

This price increase does not affect the Free School Meal entitlement. If your child is eligible to receive free school meals (if you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit), then your child's meals will continue to be free. If you think, you could be eligible for free school meals then please check www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

There has been a change to the previous free school meal eligibility and from September 2026, all children in households receiving Universal Credit in England will be eligible for free school meals, removing the previous £7,400 income cap. If you think, you could be eligible for free school meals then please check:

<https://fiso.norfolk.gov.uk/synergy/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx/Application>

We do understand that any cost increase will have an impact on families. Importantly, this 3.3% increase remains below the national Food Inflation Index rate of 4.1%, and we remain committed to keeping meals as affordable as possible for families.

Our school meals continue to provide excellent value, offering nutritious, balanced lunches that support children's health, learning, and wellbeing throughout the school day.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Oliver Burwood

Chief Executive Officer, DNEAT