



**Determination**

**Ambition**

**Equality**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Northenden Community School currently have a foodservice contract with Orian Food Services, the company who provide the lunchtime meals for the school.

Unfortunately, Orian have increased their prices to £3.28 per meal for Nursery, Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children, which is a significant price increase from last year. Reception and Key Stage 1 will still receive Universal Free School Meals.

The school appreciates the effort Orian are making to mitigate inflationary pressures, however, we are and will continue to be in discussions with Orian to try to decrease this cost as much as possible and we will update you of any progress we make to reduce the price per meal.

The increase in school meal cost will change from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September. However, if we are able to negotiate a lower price, we will inform you of the decrease.

Some families may wonder, 'Does my child qualify for Free School Meals and how can I apply?'

Your child may qualify if you have any of these incomes:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guaranteed part of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as your annual gross income is £16,190 or less and you don't get Working Tax Credit)
- Working Tax Credit run-off after you come off Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit that you applied for on, or after, 1 April 2018. As long as your household income is less than £7,400 a year after tax, not including any benefits.

Please visit the website below to apply:

[https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500186/education\\_benefits/7355/free\\_school\\_meals](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500186/education_benefits/7355/free_school_meals)

No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

We are sorry that this news will be very disappointing and we are doing everything we can to try and prevent this significant price increase.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'R. Byrne'.

Ruth Byrne

Headteacher