



# BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Belong Believe Achieve**

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Dear parents/carers,

Due to the continued rise in the cost of food over the past year, Aspens, our catering provider, have unfortunately been forced to implement an increase in the price of a school meal. The cost of a school meal will rise from £2.41 to £2.50 per meal, this represents an increase of 3.6%, which is significantly below the current rate of inflation. This increase will take effect from Monday 1 January 2024.

We are very mindful that families are currently experiencing significant financial pressures. We have explored alternatives to try and avoid making this increase, however to subsidise school meals from other areas of our already stretched budget would significantly impact funding for teaching and learning. If you have any questions or concerns, please do come and speak with us.

The process for booking and paying for school meals will remain unchanged.

If your circumstances have changed, **you may be eligible to apply for Free School Meals**. You can access further information and check eligibility via North Somerset Council <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local-schools/free-school-meals> or please come and speak to a member of the school office team.

**All children in Reception class, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to receive a free meal through the government's Universal Infant Free School meal programme.** However, even if your child is in these year groups, if you think your family would be eligible for free school meals it is important to still apply as you may benefit from support in other areas.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please come and speak with us.

Kind regards

Claire Pocock

Headteacher

