



Goostrey Community Primary School

Headteacher: Miss L Atkins B.A. (Hons)
PGCE NPQH

27.6.2024

Dear Families

In response to the attached letter from our current catering provider, I wanted to provide an update regarding the future of school meal provision here at Goostrey Community Primary School.

We are currently involved in a collaborative tender process with 37 other schools across Cheshire East. This is being managed on our behalf by an independent company. The tender details require prospective catering contractors to take over our business from 1.2.2025. We have given notice to CEC to this effect.

Part of the tender details also require the provision of school meals to be at a lower price than the autumn term price we will be charged by CEC. This will mean a reduction in price to families **from January 2025**.

Please be reassured that our current staff and their pensions will be TUPE transferred to the new company as part of the process – they are part of our school family!

Autumn term 2024 will continue as usual, with the current meal provision for all pupils.

We appreciate the price increase for the autumn term is higher than we would have anticipated, increasing to £3.20 per paid meal. Unfortunately, we are unable to subsidise this as we will be charged for all meals at this price, including for those pupils entitled to Income Related Free School Meals and Universal Infant Free School Meals, resulting in a cost to our budget of approximately £4,000 for this one term, due to the gap in funding we receive per meal for these two free meal schemes. We have however, made budget adjustments to cover this.

Please do not let this impact on our high uptake of UIFSM or IRFSM as if numbers drop, so will our future funding for these schemes.

January 2025 will see a fresh start to our school meal provision, a lower price than autumn term, and new menus.

Please bear with us as we go through this process, and please let us know if you will be changing your meal provision in KS2 in light of the autumn term price increase.

Yours sincerely

Jacqui Schurer-Lewis
School Business Manager