



## School Lunches



We want to make sure that we are providing your child with the best education and support we can. Healthy school food has obvious health benefits and can help pupils establish healthy habits for life. Healthy school food can also help to improve pupils' readiness to learn.

Weymouth College (Weyco Catering) are our provider for school lunches. Meals are ordered a week in advance and are delivered fresh every day. A selection of cold packed lunches is available as an alternative to a hot meal or when your child is attending a school trip. The cost of a school lunch is £2.40. Meals must be ordered and paid for in advance.

The menu changes every term and is available from the main school office or on the school website. The menus all conform to the Government food and nutritional standards. An allergens sheet is available to assist you in ordering lunches if your child has any special dietary requirements. If you are at all concerned you can discuss this with a member of the Weyco Catering team.

School Lunches are ordered through our online facility **SchoolMoney – Eduspot**. There is a parent guide available to assist you. If you haven't got access to the internet please contact the main school office. Alternatively you can download the app onto your mobile phone.

Pupils do not have to take up school lunches, they can bring in a packed lunch from home or you may wish to alternate. If at any time your child decides they no longer want school lunches please can you delete their order online or contact the school so that future orders can be removed.

### Universal Infant 'FREE' School Meals

From September 2014 the Government introduced 'Infant Free School Meals' for every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The online ordering system **SchoolMoney – Eduspot** will not charge you for any school lunches ordered if your child is in KS1.

#### Reception Pupils starting in September

Reception pupils can start having school lunches on their first full day of the start of term. All School Lunches for the start of any term have to be ordered the last week of the previous term. Therefore orders for Reception pupils will need to be placed in July before they start school. The online ordering system will not be available for Reception pupils until the end of September; this is because we have to manually add all new pupils onto the school system. A Lunch menu and paper order will be sent out to you before the end of the summer term (provided you have returned the **'School Meals Registration Form' – Appendix 1** which you will need to **return to the school office no later than 14<sup>th</sup> July.**

## New Pupils starting 'in-year'

If your child is starting St. George's 'in-year' it will take a few days to set them up on the School online ordering system. As lunch orders have to be ordered a week in advance your child may initially have to bring in a packed lunch from home. If you would like your child to have school lunches please complete the **'School Meals Registration Form' – Appendix 1.**

## Free school meals – Year 3 to Year 6

If your child is in Year 3 to Year 6 he/she may be eligible for Free School Meals if you are in receipt of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit. This is as long as you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual gross income isn't more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' payment (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit, as long as your household income is less than £7,400 a year after tax and not including any benefits you get

## Apply for Free School Meals

To apply, complete a free school meals application online [www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals) You will need your National Insurance number or Asylum Seekers Service number so that Dorset Council can make automated checks to confirm your entitlement. They will let you know straight away if you qualify for Free School Meals. They will send you a confirmation email shortly after.

If you have not got access to the internet you can complete a paper application **'Applying for Free School Meals - see Appendix 2'** and hand into the school office.

Please note:

The school doesn't see any information about your income.

All children who currently receive free school meals will remain eligible until at least 31 March 2022. This also applies to any new children who are approved.

This means between now and 31 March 2022, you do not need to contact us to cancel free school meals, even if you feel your child is no longer eligible.

From 31 March 2022, any child receiving free school meals will remain eligible until they have finished that school phase, for example, a child in reception on 31 March 2022 would remain eligible until they finish primary school in 2028.

This protection has been put in place while the government rolls out Universal Credits nationally.