



31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please be advised that **from Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022** there will be a price increase to the cost of the main school meal. The current price is £2.10 for a main meal deal. This will increase to £2.34; the school has not implemented a price rise for the last 3 years but due to the rise in the allocation of free school meal funding and continued pressure on the cost of wholesale food we cannot avoid this price increase any longer.

It should be noted that a school meal at Ark Alexandra Academy still provides excellent value for money. All of our menus are developed in line with the nutritional standards set by the Schools Food Trust and the Government's Food Policy in Schools. For our students in receipt of Free School Meals, the increase will be applied to the daily allowance. This will ensure they continue to have access to the main meal and dessert menu. Please refer to the following LINK to apply for free school meals <https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/education-learning/schools/school-life/school-meals/free-school-meals>

### **Free school meals for children in Year 3 and older**

Older children may get free school meals if their parents or carers get any of these benefits:-

- [Universal Credit - GOV.UK](#) – if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- [Income Support - GOV.UK](#)
- Income-based [Jobseeker's Allowance \(JSA\) - GOV.UK](#)
- Income-related [Employment and Support Allowance \(ESA\) - GOV.UK](#)
- Support under [Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 - GOV.UK](#)
- The Guaranteed element of [State Pension Credit -GOV.UK](#)
- [Child Tax Credit - GOV.UK](#), only, if your annual household income (assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) isn't over £16,190

[Anyone getting [Working Tax Credit - GOV.UK](#), won't get free meals regardless of income]

I ask for your understanding with these price increases and fully appreciate that times are tough. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

All queries and requests for support are confidential and we will always work with families to ensure that a solution is found.

Yours faithfully

Mr Liam Collins  
Principal

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**Principal: Mr L Collins**  
**Network Associate Principal: Mr J Scafe**  
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