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15th August 2026

TO ALL FAMILIES ACROSS THE LEARN TO LIVE FEDERATION

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am writing to inform you that from September 2026, there will be an increase in the price of school meals for all children at Bidwell Brook School and Ellen Tinkham School & College. This decision was ratified by Governors at their last full Governing Body meeting.

The new meal charges will be:

- Junior pupils (Lower School at BB / Hollow Lane at ET): increasing from £2.65 to £3.00 per meal
- Senior pupils (Upper School at BB / Wayside Crescent and Sixth Form at ET): increasing from £2.75 to £3.10 per meal

I appreciate that any increase in costs may be unwelcome and would like to apologise for the need to raise our prices. However, over several years we have experienced significant increases in food costs, together with rises in staffing and wage costs. Throughout this period, we have worked hard to absorb these additional expenses and have not passed on the full extent of these increases to families.

Unfortunately, the continued rise in costs now means that an increase in meal prices is necessary to ensure that we can continue to provide high-quality, nutritious meals for our pupils while maintaining the standard of service expected within our schools.

We remain committed to offering healthy, balanced meals and thank you for your understanding and continued support. The revised prices for school lunches for each half term / term / the academic year will be available to view on our websites once we have returned to school in September.

Yours faithfully

Warren Smart
Federation Finance Manager

