

School Meals Debt Policy for Parents

As from 07/01/2019 Minet Junior School has adopted a strict NO DEBT policy relating to the school meal service.

If debts are incurred, then the school budget has to pay for them. This means that money which should be spent on the children's education is used to pay for debts incurred by parents. Every parent will agree that this is unacceptable and we request that all parents give this policy their full support.

No parent would take their child to McDonalds and expect them to be given food without paying; the same applies at school. If parents believe that their children may qualify for entitlement to Free School Meals please contact School Food Support Service, Free School Meal eligibility checking service on 0116 3056588 or 0116 3057093, alternatively please ask at the School reception desk for a form. This allowance is a statutory right and it is important that you use it if you qualify. Help is available with your application either at the school office or by contacting any of the above numbers.

Parent/s must pay in advance for the school lunch using the method of payment outlined below:

Online using ParentPay at www.parentpay.com using your account which you should have now set up.

Children will not be provided with a school lunch unless it is paid for, except those that are entitled to free school meals. If a parent genuinely forgets to pay in advance, the school may grant a debt allowance of 2 meals.

If the debt is not cleared, parents must either provide a packed lunch. In a case when a debt payment is not received nor a packed lunch provided, the School will phone the parent to ask them to come to pay online immediately. Otherwise they must provide sandwiches before lunch time.

If payment of the debt is not received, the School reserves the right to begin legal proceedings against parents to recover the debt. Social services may also be informed that these parents are not carrying out the responsibility of care by not providing food for their children at lunchtime.

We hope that by implementing this debt policy we are able to help parents manage school dinner money better and at the same time ensure that all money that is for children's learning is available.

If you have any concerns please don't hesitate in contacting the school.

Yours sincerely

Head Teacher