



## **Manland Primary School**

*Sauncey Avenue, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 4QW*

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*Headteacher: Mrs Wicks*

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Dear Parents and Carers,

### **School meals for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6**

School meals are important to the health and wellbeing of our pupils and are a valued part of the school day. As a school, we always try to keep the price static for as long as possible, however, Hertfordshire Catering Limited have had to increase the price they charge, per meal, following changes in the National Living Wage and National Insurance.

As such, from 1 April 2025, the price for each child's meal (Year 3 and above) will be £3.74.

The price of infant school meals (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) has also increased, however this cost is not paid by parents and carers as all infants nationally receive universal free school meals.

Please be assured that we have not taken this decision lightly and have worked hard to minimise the price increase.

### **Free school meals**

Families in receipt of certain qualifying benefits are able to apply for assistance with the cost of school meals from Herts County Council's free school meal scheme.

As well as receiving free school meals, additional money is available to Manland from central government for every pupil who receives a free school meal. Additional funds, such as this, would contribute greatly to our ability to provide a high level of education to our children. We would like to encourage as many of you as possible to register for a free school meal, if appropriate. This includes infant children (those in Year 2 and under), as the school will still receive the additional funds, even though parents/carers are not required to pay for school meals due to the universal infant free school meals scheme.

To see if your child is eligible for free school meals please apply via the link below:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

Please apply via the relevant section, dependant on whether your child is Year 2 and under, or Year 3 and above.

If you have any queries regarding this matter please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Wicks  
Headteacher

*Empowering children to lead fulfilling lives*

