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TRUST·ED
Schools' Partnership

Headteacher: Mr J Parr BA Hons

23 November 2020

School Meals Debt Policy for Parents

Dear Parents/Carers,

As from 24/11/2020 Church Stretton School will adopt a strict NO DEBT policy relating to the school meal service.

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

Therefore, **parent/s must pay in advance for the school lunch using ParentPay please**

If parents believe that their children may qualify for entitlement to Free School Meals please contact Shropshire Council on 0845 678900 or alternatively visit www.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/ 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 the above number.

What happens if there is insufficient / no money on ParentPay for my child to spend?

Pupils 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 1 meal, this will be a baguette or sandwich, on the first occasion. (A full meal will not be provided). However, this debt must be paid the next day, and future meals must be paid in advanced before any meal is provided.

If the debt is not cleared, parents must provide a packed lunch for their child. 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 pay online immediately. Otherwise, they must provide sandwiches before lunch time.

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

It is possible to set up an email or text alert via ParentPay to alert you when funds are running low. We have attached information on this.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Yours sincerely,

M Gibbs

Miss M Gibbs
Operations Co-ordinator

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