

Dear Parents/Carers

School Meals Payment Policy for Parents

As from January 2010 Durants School adopted a strict NO DEBT policy relating to the provision of school meals. All school meals must be paid for promptly.

If dinner money cannot be collected, then school resources will be used to pay off the sum owed. We are sure that all parents would agree that this is not the best use of school resources.

Parent/s whose children are not entitled to Free School Meals must pay by having credit on their parent pay accounts as Durants operates a cashless system. Parents have been informed about this. If parents believe that their children may qualify for entitlement to Free School Meals they should contact the school office for further information. The allowance for Free School Meals is a statutory entitlement and should be claimed if your child qualifies. In order to qualify, you will be required to complete an application form and provide any evidence which may be requested. Free school meals entitlement will only apply from the date the evidence has been received and the application approved. It can not be backdated. The School will support parents with the application.

School meals will be provided for all children whose parents pay promptly and for all children entitled to Free School Meals. If a parent genuinely forgets to pay, the school may grant a debt allowance of one week/five meals. However, this debt must be paid immediately. If the money owed is not paid promptly parents will be asked to provide their child with a packed lunch instead. School meals will only resume once the debt has be paid off.

If payment of the debt is not received within one week, the school will work with parents to ensure that the situation can be resolved in the best interest of the child. The aim of this policy is to help all parents meet payments for school meals and to ensure that school resources are not being used to provide school meals, but are directed at providing resources in the classroom.

Important note: Whilst the school will work with parents to ensure school meals are paid for promptly Durants is committed to ensuring that all pupils are provided with a sufficient lunch so that they can benefit from learning opportunities in the afternoons.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Carli
Head Teacher
Durants School