Purwell Primary School

School Meals Debt Policy for Parents

Purwell Primary 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 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 the office for more details. This allowance is a statutory right, and it is important that you use if you qualify. We will help you all we can with your application.

Children will not be provided with a school lunch unless it is paid for, except those that are entitled to free school meals. Parent/s must pay in advance for the school lunch using any of the methods of payment outlined below:

- Online using school gateway
- Or cash, NO cheques

If the debt is not cleared, parents must either provide a packed lunch or take the child home for lunch. In a case where a debt payment is not received nor a packed lunch provided, the Head or other member of staff will phone the parent to ask them to come to school with the money or ask them to pay online immediately. Otherwise, they must provide sandwiches before lunch time or arrange to take their child home for lunch.

If payment of the debt is not received the Head 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.
Our hope is that by implementing this debt we can ensure that all money that is for the children's learning is available.