



Kingsway Junior School

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Headteacher – Ms J Beale

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Deputy Headteacher – Mrs A Akers

“Developing confident, enthusiastic and happy learners”

Important: School Meal Price Increase from 1st April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hertfordshire Catering Ltd (HCL) has informed us that the price of a school meal will increase from **£3.45 to £3.55** from **1st April 2026**. The weekly cost will be **£17.75**.

This increase is due to the rise in the national living wage, other staffing costs, and the rising cost of food. HCL has confirmed there will be no further price increases until 31st March 2027.

Payment

Dinner money must be paid in advance. You can pay online using School Gateway:

- Download the Gateway App on your smartphone, or
- Use a computer to make payments

You'll need to register first using the email address and mobile number registered with the school. Information on how to do this is available on our website. The minimum payment is £3.55. When you log onto School Gateway, you'll be able to see your payment status.

Free School Meals

Your child may be entitled to free school meals if you receive certain benefits, including Universal Credit (with a household income of less than £7,400 a year after tax). From September 2026, all families receiving Universal Credit will be eligible, regardless of income level.

If you think your child may be entitled to free school meals, please complete the attached form and return it to the school office, or visit <https://check-free-school-meals.education.gov.uk/> to apply online.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Knowles
Office Manager