



**Children and Young People Directorate**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Laurence House  
1 Catford Road  
London SE6 4RU

fax 020 8314 3039

Estate\_Management@lewisham.gov.uk

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To All Lewisham Parents and Carers

Dear Parent/Carer,

**School Meal Price Increase from Easter 2011**

As a part of the Council's review of all fees and charges for our services, Lewisham is proposing to increase the cost of Primary School Meals from £1.40 to £1.60 per meal from Easter 2011. This will be the first time since 2007 that the meal price to families has increased and represents the cost of food inflation over that 3 year period. The price of an average Secondary school meal will increase from £1.85 to £2.00. The price rise will have no financial impact upon Free School Meal recipients.

In the following two years it is proposed, following annual consultation with our caterers and having explored the school meal market at that time, that there would be annual increases of a further 20p in both Primary and Secondary school meals in order to bring charges more in line with those elsewhere in London (at £1.40 Lewisham is currently charging the lowest meal price in London).

It is perhaps worth noting that at £1.60, and with subsequent annual increases, Lewisham meals will continue to provide all of the Government nutritional requirements of a school meal and an extremely high level of quality catering from experienced and qualified chefs. With the cost to the parent of a Primary school meal in London in an increasing number of areas reaching £2.15, Lewisham at £1.60 will be providing extraordinarily good value for money. With our menus changing regularly on a 3 weekly cycle, and with many more meal innovations taking place all of the time, Lewisham will ensure that our school pupils have the best food offers each day.

If you wish to make comment upon the increase in school meals charges please make use of the e-mail address at the top of this letter.

**Estate Management Unit**

Lewisham Children and Young People Directorate