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23rd June 2015

Pennaeth - Alun Harding B.A.(Hons) N.P.Q.H - Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer

School Meals Save Money!

There are many things to think about on your child's behalf and what they are going to eat when they are at school is likely to be one of them.

It is important that children are eating a healthy balanced diet as this helps improve their concentration levels.

Wrexham Catering Service has been working hard to bring your child a variety of tasty and nutritious meals. Each year the new menu is rigorously checked to ensure that the food served in all schools meets strict food and nutrition legislation set by the Welsh Government.

Think of the time you would save if your child had school meals instead of packed lunches; you could save up to 190 hours a year, which is the time needed to make packed lunches that meet the nutritional standards of school meals – that's just over a week!

What's more, if you are receiving the following, your child may be entitled to **Free School Meals, saving you over £400 a year:**

- Income Support (IS)*
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)*
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance (IR)
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit with an annual total income below the HMRC set limit
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit

* Children who receive IS or IBJSA in their own right are also eligible to receive free school lunches.

Don't miss out – for more information on Free School Meals please contact Wrexham Support Services on **01978 297413**. I have attached an application form and commonly asked questions that will assist you.

Further information can also be found on the school website www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk; the Wrexham School Meals Facebook page or at www.Wrexham.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Alun Harding
Headteacher

"The school creates a supportive atmosphere and offers learning experiences where each pupil is respected as an individual, regardless of gender, race or disability."

Estyn Report May 2009



Commonly asked questions and answers

“How are Free School Meals paid?”

Each morning your child's account will receive an automatic credit

If your child is in primary school this can be used to buy a hot meal and pudding of the day (including a vegetarian option) or a packed lunch. If your child is in secondary school the money can be used from mid-morning break onwards to spend on items up to the price of their entitlement*. We ensure that all pupils are able to purchase a hot meal and a pudding of the day with their daily entitlement.

** Infant School £2.15, Junior & Secondary School £2.20*

“My child has special dietary requirements”

Please speak to the school cook to discuss how we can help.

“My child doesn't always want a hot meal in primary school”

Please speak to your school cook as we are able to offer a packed lunch which includes a choice of sandwich, fruit and a biscuit/muffin/traybake of the day, salads or jacket potatoes available on request.

“My child does not like school dinners”

We try our best to offer a varied menu to suit a range of different tastes. We realise that not everyone will enjoy everything on the menu, but our school cooks can offer a taster to your child before they are served the meal or offer an alternative choice. The school dining room provides a fantastic experience to help develop your child's social skills. We hold regular tasting events throughout the year at Wrexham schools with some schools also offering parents the chance to come along at lunchtime to experience school dinners for themselves.

**WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
APPLICATION FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

OFFICE USE ONLY
From
To.....

PLEASE TICK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR THE BENEFIT YOU RECEIVE

Income Support Immigration and Asylum Seekers Allowance

Income Based Job Seekers Allowance Guarantee Element of Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit with income below the set limit

1. Details of Applicant

Full Name: Date of Birth/...../.....

Address:

..... Post Code:

Telephone No.: Relationship to Children:

National Insurance Number L L N N N N N L L = Letter

Must be completed

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 N = Number

2. Details of Child/Children

Give details of each child in full-time attendance.

Full Name	Date of Birth	School

3. Details of Entitlement to Benefits
PLEASE ATTACH ORIGINAL CURRENT PROOF OF YOUR ENTITLEMENT. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THIS YOUR ENTITLEMENT CAN BE CHECKED ON-LINE BY THE SUPPORT SERVICES SECTION AGAINST THE RELEVANT BENEFIT ORGANISATION

4. Declaration

Please read this declaration carefully before you sign and date it:-

- I certify that the information given is correct and complete. If information is incorrect or fraudulent you may take action against me. This may include court action.
- I acknowledge that the information provided will be processed for the purpose of school meals and may be passed to other services within WCBC.
- I agree that I will notify the Support Services Section of WCBC as to any changes in my circumstances which may affect my claim.
- I authorise the Department for Work & Pensions / HMR&C to divulge information regarding my entitlement to benefits with WCBC.

Signature Date



Why choose school dinners?

Our catering team work hard to ensure that they provide a menu that pupils will enjoy eating while delivering nutritious and balanced meals to encourage healthy eating habits for the future.

Fully trained and qualified friendly catering staff

3 weekly cycle menu offering a varied choice of meal options

Great value for money

Special dietary needs can be catered for – just ask at school

Vegetarian choices available every day

Packed lunches are also available from our catering team on request

Don't forget our complete menu range is available for children eligible for free school meals.

Anonymous Pupils –

Did you know that in Wrexham schools, pupils pay for school dinner anonymously – no money is ever exchanged at lunch time regardless of how they pay. This means that Free School Meal pupils cannot be distinguished from paying pupils, reducing any stigma that may be attached to receiving Free School Meals.

Did you know – that children eating a healthy balanced meal will have improved concentration levels, while providing essential nutrients to help with all of their growing bodies needs

Did you know – All school meals comply with strict legislation by the Welsh Government to ensure we provide nutritionally balanced choices.

