



*'We can and we will'*

## **GLEBE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Dear Parents,

### Hot School Meals

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who have embraced the new online payment system. It is far more efficient from the school's perspective and, in this digital age in which we all live, I suspect it is no more onerous for parents than buying things on Amazon or other online retailers.

We do still have a few issues, the most notable of which is booking hot lunches. We have increasing numbers of children turning up at school with no packed lunch or a pre-booked meal. We do have to insist on pre-booking the meals (by midnight on the previous day) as we have to order the meals in advance from our supplier. It makes it really difficult for the kitchen staff when children turn up without having booked. We would never refuse a child food, and in most cases parents do pay for the meals retrospectively. However, it does mean that we have to use the food we already have and make it stretch to accommodate those who haven't ordered. On one day recently we had 25 children who had not booked a meal in advance but all expected to be fed. As I am sure you appreciate, this makes life very difficult.

Hopefully this letter will remind people to book in the appropriate way from now on. However, in order to ensure we have sufficient portions of hot food available to those who have ordered it, from next Monday children who have not pre-ordered their food in the appropriate way, i.e. through the school payment system by the requisite time, will be given a packed lunch (sandwich, fruit, biscuit etc) rather than a hot meal. This will still be charged to your online school account. The same will apply to those children who have forgotten their own packed lunch (and where we have been unable to contact parents).

I hope that you appreciate why we've had to introduce this rule – it is designed to be fair to all of the children in school.

Thanks in anticipation.

Yours sincerely

NJ Alford  
Headteacher

