

Giffards Primary School

Dinner Money & Breakfast Club Debt Recovery Policy

Last Agreed by Governors
May 2021

Next Review Date

May 2024, unless required beforehand

Signed By Chair of Governors _____ Date _____

1.0 Introduction

This policy concerns the collection of school meals and breakfast club money and the approach to be taken in cases of debts arising when parent/carers fail to pay for school meals or Breakfast Club. Parents/carers are able to access the policy on the school website.

All pupils in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are now entitled to receive Universal Infant Free School Meals.

2.0 General Principle

- i. School meals must be paid for in advance, if a pupil is to have meals for the duration of the week, monies must be received in advance of, or during that week.
- ii. The school is happy to accept pupils having an occasional school meal, monies must be received in advance or during that week.
- iii. Breakfast Club must be paid for in advance or on the day.
- iv. If debts are incurred, these have to be paid from the academy budget. This means that money which should be spent on all pupils' education in the academy is used to pay for debts incurred by individual parents/carers. The governing body see this as unacceptable and request that all parents/carers give this policy their full support.

3.0 Free School Meals

- i. KS2 pupils will not be provided with a school meal unless it is paid for, except those confirmed as entitled to free school meals.
- ii. If parents/carers believe that their child/children may qualify for entitlement to free school meals, they should complete the online application form on the Thurrock Council website.
- iii. As this allowance is a statutory right for qualifying pupils it is important that parents/carers make use of it.
- iv. The school is only allowed to provide free school meals to pupils where entitlement has been verified.

4.0 Breakfast Club

- i. Breakfast Club payments should be made prior to or on the day any child attends. If a child is entitled to Pupil Premium and it has been agreed as part of the school support package for the family, there will be no charge for the child to attend Breakfast Club.
- ii. Breakfast Club is self-funded meaning all monies received are used to pay for staffing and all supplies. Without this funding Breakfast Club would be unable to continue. Therefore governing body request that all parents/carers give this policy their full support as if debts are incurred the Breakfast Club may have to close.

5.0 Procedure for Collection of Arrears

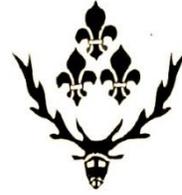
- i. It is accepted that on occasion arrears may arise for various reasons. However, arrears cannot be allowed to accumulate.
- ii. The Board of Governors has therefore agreed the following policy where arrears arise
 - A gentle reminder groupcall will be sent at the end of each week for any arrears for dinner money and Breakfast Club.
 - The parent/carer will be informed by phone where arrears are in excess two weeks/£23.00 for dinner money and arrears in excess of two weeks for Breakfast Club.
 - A final letter to the parent/carer informing them that no meals will be provided or Breakfast Club place provided for their child/children if payment has not been received by a specified date in accordance with the policy, the date when four weeks of arrears have been accumulated (Appendix 1 & Appendix 2)
- iii. Any parent/guardian experiencing financial difficulty may make a claim for the remission of charges which should be addressed to the Headteacher and will be considered confidentially on an individual basis.
- iv. No school meals to be provided to pupils when arrears exceed four weeks/in excess of £46.00. A place will not be provided to a pupil/pupils in our Breakfast Club when arrears exceed two weeks of payments.
- v. Once the final letter deadline has expired, the Board of Governors will decide whether legal proceeding should begin.

APPENDIX 1.

Giffards Primary School

Queen Elizabeth Drive Corringham Essex SS17 7TG

Headteacher Mrs N Haslam-Davis
Telephone 01375 672138
Fax 01375 677083
Website www.giffardsprimary.thurrock.sch.uk



'Valuing Everyone As Learners'

Child's Name & Class

Date

Dear Parent/Carer,

As per my telephone conversation with _____ on _____, unfortunately we are still awaiting payment for an outstanding amount of £_____ for dinner arrears.

Please contact the school office on the above number to make a payment by credit/debit card over the phone immediately to clear your child's arrears. As discussed in our last conversation you will need to provide your child with a Packed Lunch until all the arrears are cleared.

Yours Sincerely,

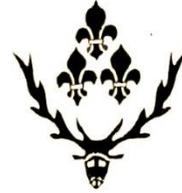
Mrs S Bryant
Business Manager

APPENDIX 2.

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Fax 01375 677083
Website www.giffardsprimary.thurrock.sch.uk



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Child's Name & Class

Date

Dear Parent/Carer,

As per my telephone conversation with _____ on _____, unfortunately we are still awaiting payment for an outstanding amount of £_____ for breakfast club arrears.

Please contact the school office on the above number to make a payment by credit/debit card over the phone immediately to clear your child's arrears. As discussed in our last conversation your child will be unable attend breakfast club until all arrears are cleared.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs S Bryant
Business Manager