



## School Meals Policy

Dear Parents / Carers,

Unfortunately due to an increase in the number of school meals that are regularly not being paid for, as from April, 2016, Moorpark Junior School will adopt a NO DEBT policy relating to the school meals.

If debts are incurred, then the school budget has to pay for them. This means that money which should be spent on the children's education is used to pay for any unpaid meals. I am sure everybody will agree that this is unacceptable and we hope that all parents give this policy their full support. As we all know, nobody takes their child to McDonalds and expect them to be given food without paying; the same applies at school.

If you believe that you may qualify for entitlement to Free School Meals please contact the office for more details. This allowance is a statutory right. **It is important that you use it if you qualify.** We will help you all we can with your application.

School lunches must be paid for in advance using any of the methods of payment outlined below:

- Online at [www.ipayimpact.co.uk](http://www.ipayimpact.co.uk)
- Cash payments at the Revalve machine in the reception area.

If a parent genuinely forgets to pay in advance, the school may grant a debt allowance of one meal. However, this debt must be paid next day and future meals must be paid in advanced before any meal is provided.

If the debt is not cleared, parents must provide a packed lunch. In a case when a debt payment is not received nor a packed lunch provided, the office will phone the parent to ask them to come to school with the money or provide sandwiches before lunch time.

If payment of the debt is not received by the next day, the Headteacher reserves the right to inform the Chair of the Governors Finance Committee who may decide to begin legal proceedings against parents to recover the debt. Social services may also be informed that these parents are not carrying out the responsibility of care by not providing food for their children at lunchtime.

We hope that by implementing this debt policy we are able to help parents manage school dinner money better and at the same time ensure that all the money that is for children's learning is available.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Peters

Headteacher

