

Y BONT FAEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL MEALS DEBT POLICY

The aim of this policy is to avoid unnecessary burden on the school budget.

It is necessary to have a School Meals Debt Policy as schools are now responsible for any unpaid meals taken and any such debt comes out of the school's budget which is designed to be used to benefit all children in the school.

It is every parent's responsibility to ensure their child has a lunch in school to sustain them throughout the day so that they can concentrate and work to their full potential. Failure to send a child to school without a packed lunch or no means to purchase lunch is considered to be neglect of that child.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)

Children who qualify for FSM will still receive them free of charge. If parents think they may be eligible for FSM they should contact the Local Authority.

PACKED LUNCH

Parents are welcome to provide their child with a healthy packed lunch.

PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL MEALS

The Vale Catering Service provides healthy and nutritious hot school meals or a choice of filled baguette, jacket potato or a grab bag. A menu is sent out twice a year and children can make their choice of meal from this. Payment should be made online, in advance, using 'ParentPay' which is the preferred method of payment. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that they have sufficient funds in their ParentPay account to cover the cost of their child's school lunch. If you do not have access to a computer, then you may choose to pay by Paypoint and you will be given a barcode for this method of payment by the school secretary. However, if you are not able to use these methods, then you may send cash or a cheque (made payable to Vale of Glamorgan Council) in a marked envelope to the school office.

If a child has been sent to school with insufficient funds in their ParentPay account or no money to cover the cost of a lunch provided by The Vale Catering Service, steps taken will be as follows:-

1. School will send out a reminder to the parent.
2. If the situation arises again, then the parent will be contacted to request they bring payment in, bring a packed lunch or take them home for lunch ensuring they are returned to school for the beginning of the afternoon session.
3. If the parent does not comply with these options then a Final Debt Letter will be sent to parents.
4. Consistent non-compliance with the above will result in the Local Authority advising the Small Claims Court and Social Services.