



Saint Urban's Catholic Primary School

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12.06.26

Dear Parent/Carers,

Price increases from September 2026

I write to give you advance notice of price increases for meals and wraparound provision from September 2026.

Breakfast Club

From September 2026, the price per session at Breakfast Club will increase from £5.00 - £6.00.

After School Club

From September 2026, the price per session at our After School Club will increase from £12.00 to £13.00.

School meals

From September 2026, the price of a school meal, for parents who pay, will increase from £2.90 to £2.95.

School meals will continue to be free to:

- All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. This is known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM)
- Children eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

Having a free school meal can save you over £500 a year and ensure your child gets a fresh, hot and healthy midday meal. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, or eligible for benefits-related free school meals, I encourage you to choose a school meal over a packed lunch.

Please note, that since 1st April 2018, if your child was entitled to free school meals (FSM), this was protected for 6 years, even if your circumstances changed. From 1st September 2026 this no longer applies. If your circumstances have changed, you will need to check your child's eligibility and re-apply for FSM.

Free School Meal eligibility and expansion from September 2026

From the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year, all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit will be entitled to receive a free meal.

From September 2026, there will be 2 categories of benefits-based free school meals:

- **Targeted FSM**, which continues to be based on the existing threshold, covering pupils who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less
- **Expanded FSM**, a new category covering pupils who do not qualify for targeted FSM, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit

Headteacher Miss T McStay
Deputy Headteacher Mr S Stockdale

**Today, a separate letter has been sent to all parents giving further information on eligibility.
Please ensure you read this and respond if you are in receipt of Universal Credit.**

Help with childcare costs

A range of help with childcare costs is available – see our website at <https://www.sturbans.co.uk/parents/wrap-around-care-breakfast-and-after-school-clubs> for more details.

The same information is provided below:

Help with childcare costs

Tax-Free Childcare

We are registered as a childcare provider with Tax-Free Childcare. By setting up an online childcare account for your child, you get up to £2,000 a year towards the costs of childcare. For every £8 you pay into your account, the Government will top it up by £2 to use to pay the school. For more information, including how to apply, go to:

The total top up you can get for each child is £500 every 3 months (up to £2,000 a year). This goes up to £1,000 every 3 months if your child is disabled (up to £4,000 a year).

You will usually need to be working (or returning to work) and your child must be 11 or younger (16 or younger if they are disabled).

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Universal Credit

Universal Credit Childcare could save eligible parents up to £2,000 a year. The money is given to you after you have paid for the childcare and it has been provided for you. You will need to show evidence of your costs, including a letter from the school which we will provide on request. For more information, go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/universal-credit-childcare-costs>

Childcare Grant Payment Service

You may be eligible for help with childcare costs if you are a full-time higher education student. The grant does not need to be paid back and is on top of other student finance. For more information, go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/childcare-grant/how-to-claim>

Childcare Vouchers

Childcare Voucher schemes are now closed to new entrants although parents who have already signed up can continue to use them. Please contact the school before making payments using childcare vouchers and we will enrol with your provider.

If you are unsure of anything, please contact the Office at school.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss McStay

**Headteacher Miss T McStay
Deputy Headteacher Mr S Stockdale**