



*'Know the way,  
Go the way,  
Show the way'*

Wykebeck Primary School  
Brander Street  
Gipton  
Leeds  
LS9 6QH



[www.wykebeckprimary.co.uk](http://www.wykebeckprimary.co.uk)

Tel: 0113 249 1525

17<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Parent and Carers,

### **Financial Update 25/26**

Due to the cost of living crisis which continues to affect us all, this year we will continue to support all families as best we can where our School Budget allows.

### **Uniforms**

We will again be providing all pupils with a free school uniform consisting of a branded jumper, branded polo and a PE t-shirt. These will be sent home with your child/ren this week. Please can I strongly urge you all to clearly name/label these items to make identification as easy as possible. However, please do not do this until they have been tried on and you are happy with the sizing, as this year, we will be unable to exchange uniforms with children's names already written in them. Extra uniforms will be available to purchase via a web-link which will be found on ParentPay (more details to follow) with no price increases from 24/25.

### **Trips/Residential**

We will also continue to heavily subsidise trips this coming year although due to budget constraints this may not be to the same extent as previous years. To enable for you to budget for these, all trips will be added to ParentPay in advance and give the option for parents/carers to make weekly/monthly contributions to cover costs.

### **School Dinners**

The price we are being charged for school dinners has increased dramatically over the past 18 months and unfortunately, we are going to have to increase the price we charge those children who are not eligible for free school meals. The **new price for school meals from 1.9.25 – 31.3.26 will be £2.90 a day (£14.50 a week)** for all who have not had a Free School Meal application granted by the Council. This price will be reviewed at the end of March when the Local Authority review their pricing. If you think you might be eligible for Free School Meals and haven't yet applied, please pick up an application form from the school office.

### **Damage to School Property**

This year, we have unfortunately seen a huge increase in vandalism towards, and deliberate damage caused to school and school property by a small number of pupils. The costs we have incurred for repairs/replacements have meant that this money has not been able to be spent on what it was planned for at the start of the year. This is unsustainable when we are working on an already tight budget. Therefore, with immediate effect, if your child is found to be responsible for a deliberate act of vandalism or damage, the cost of repair/replacement will be charged directly to their parent or carer.

Our core values are **Respect, Resilience, Responsibility, Inclusion, Community and Kindness**  
Headteacher Miss V Watson





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### End of day late collections

This year we have had a number of parents/carers who have repeatedly been late (after 3.30pm) in collecting their children at the end of the day. We have decided as late collections are having such a negative impact on our staff - it takes them away (while supervising uncollected children) from the job they are employed to do - that in line with a number of other local schools, we will now be issuing fines to persistent offenders. From September, school gates will be closed each day at 3.30pm prompt. Any children not collected from class by 3.30pm will be brought to the office to be picked up from there.

**1<sup>st</sup> occasion** – Letter from office re-confirming collection expectations

**2<sup>nd</sup> occasion** will trigger a meeting with Headteacher/Senior Leader

**3<sup>rd</sup> and each subsequent occasion** - £15 fine issued to be paid within 14 days

### Holidays during Term Time

Any planned absences during term time, whether it be for a holiday or travelling to visit relatives, **must** be applied for using an Exceptional Circumstances Request form which are available from the School Office.

The Department of Education made important changes to the law for families wanting to request leave of absence in term time. The changes made it clear that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. The Local Authority and school governors support this; therefore, students will only be given permission to take leave in term time if there are exceptional circumstances.

If your child's absence from school is unauthorised.

The Penalty Notice fine would be: -

- £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days, rising to
- £160 per parent, per child if paid between 21-28 days.
- If the fine is not paid within 28 days you may be prosecuted under S444.1 of the Education Act 1996

Finally, I would like to wish you all a fantastic Summer holiday and we will see you all again refreshed and ready to go on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September after what will hopefully be a wonderful break.

Yours faithfully

Miss V Watson  
Headteacher

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Our breakfast club is  
supported by the charity  
**magic  
breakfast**  
fuel for learning

