

Headteacher: Mr D. Whales | Chair of Governors: Mr A. Brown

4th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you have had a good summer, and it was lovely to see all of our students return to school this week. I would like to take this opportunity to update parents and carers on a number of areas that have changed since the summer holiday.

Canteen

Many students will have already told you that the canteen provision has changed and that some of their favourite foods (including pizza!) are no longer available.

Why has the food provision changed?

The government consulted on **new school food standards**, which proposed healthier menus with:

- More fruit and vegetables
- More wholegrains and fibre
- Restrictions on high-fat, high-sugar and highly processed foods
- Greater expectations around breakfast provision

We appreciate that it may take some time for students to adapt to the new, healthier options on offer. However, the canteen continues to provide a range of choices, including hot meals, baguettes and other lunchtime options.

The meal deal for pupils entitled to Free School Meals remains £2.75 and includes a main meal, dessert and a drink from the hydration station.

Further information about our lunch provision can be found on our website:

<https://www.kenstimpson.org.uk/page/?title=Lunch+Times&pid=327>

Free School Meals

From 1 September 2026 everyone needed to reapply for free school meals, even if this had been awarded to you previously

There will be two types of Free School Meals:

- Targeted Free School Meals – for families under current £7,400 income threshold. This also helps schools receive extra funding (Pupil Premium).
- Expanded Free School Meals – for families receiving Universal Credit above the threshold. Children will still receive a free meal, but schools will not receive additional funding.

From 1st August 2026, all parents should apply using the online form via website.

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals>

The EWB team will check FSM eligibility and inform the school of entitlement for the whole school year. At the start of each school year, this entitlement will be reassessed.

For some parents who have applied there has been a delay on some of this information being shared with the school, we are working to get this updated as soon as possible.

Allergies

Whether your child uses the canteen or brings a packed lunch, we remain a **nut-free school**.

Whilst we recognise that some foods may contain traces of nuts, all food served in the canteen is clearly labelled, and allergen information is available on our website.

Each term, we will issue a simple form asking parents and carers to notify us of any allergies their child may have so that we can ensure the appropriate support is in place in school.

If the form is not completed, we will assume that there are no known allergies or medical concerns.

If your child develops a new allergy or experiences an allergic reaction at any time, please inform our First Aid Team as soon as possible so that we can update our records accordingly.

To complete the allergy form, please use the following link:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=F9oNNRvs8EukzsRR1AsZohLJUmdvaFZOkjnB07USHKxUNFcYV0JFUVVVMktMMVg5Tk40QVhWRVVDWS4u>

For further information regarding allergies in school please visit:

<https://www.kenstimpson.org.uk/inclusion-department/allergy-information>

Thank you for your continued support



Ms R Mercuri-Butcher
Business Manager & Designated Safeguarding Lead