Jeremy Miles AS/MS Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg Minister for Education and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ85295

Jenny Rathbone MS Member of the Senedd for Cardiff Central Senedd Cymru Ty Hywel Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1SN jenny.rathbone@senedd.wales

21 June 2022

Dear Jenny,

Thank you for submitting a written question (WQ85295) asking about the school meal per-pupil budget allocation statistics for each local authority. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

The Welsh Government does not routinely collect data on school meal per-pupil budget allocation statistics.

Under section 512ZB of the Education Act 1996, local authorities are required to provide a free school meal at lunchtime for eligible pupils. Funding for this is un-hypothecated and is provided to local authorities through the local government Revenue Support Grant (RSG) settlement. Local authorities therefore have discretion in allocating it, meaning it is not possible for us to disaggregate the settlement and identify a school meal per-pupil budget allocation for the lunchtime offer.

However, information about the charges made by local authorities for school meal provision is publicly available. I have set out the range of prices in the table below.

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Proposed for April 2022			
	<u>Paid Meal Price</u>		
AUTHORITY	Junior	Infant	Nursery
Caerphilly	£2.10	£2.10	£2.50
Newport	£2.15	£2.15	n/a
Bridgend	£2.20	£2.20	£2.20
Anglesey	£2.20	£2.20	£2.20
Merthyr	£2.30	£2.30	£2.30
Neath & Port Talbot	£2.35	£2.35	£2.35
Powys	£2.35	£2.35	£2.35
Wrexham	£2.40	£2.40	£2.40
Swansea	£2.40	-	-
Blaenau Gwent	£2.40	n/a	n//a
Denbighshire	£2.40	£2.40	£2.40
Vale of Glamorgan	£2.45	£2.45	
Flintshire	£2.30	£2.30	£1.20
Gwynedd	£2.50	£2.50	£2.50
Monmouthshire	£2.50	£2.50	£2.50
Rhondda Cynnon Taf	£2.55	£2.55	£2.55
Cardiff	£2.60	£2.60	n/a
Carmarthenshire	£2.60	£2.60	£2.60
	to	to	to
	£2.67	£2.67	£2.67
Conwy	£2.85	£2.85	-
Torfaen	£2.40	£2.30	
Ceredigion	£2.50	£2.50	n/a
Pembrokeshire	£2.65	£2.55	n/a

In addition to the free school meal offer, a local authority may also charge for the provision of meals. As with free school meals, local authorities are responsible for allocating budgets in relation to this provision.

Local authorities can also be required to provide a free breakfast to primary school pupils under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. This funding to support this provision is also provided through the RSG settlement and the Welsh Government does routinely collect data on the associated costs.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Miles AS/MS Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg Minister for Education and Welsh Language