



SHARPS COPSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher

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Our ref: SCPN School Lunches – November 2026

21st October 2026

Dear Parents & Carers

Please find attached the **Autumn/Winter** lunch menu that begins when we return after half term on **2nd November** meal prices remain the same at **£2.75** per meal per day and these choices will continue until the **Spring/Summer** menu is issued in **March 2026**.

Red (meat), **Green (vegetarian)**, and **Blue (jacket potato/pasta)** choices will continue to be made by children in class during morning registration.

At Sharps Copse, we expect payment in **advance** for school meals preferably on the Monday of the week before the meals are taken by paying using our cashless **SCOPay** system. If your child has a lunch every day **£13.75** should be paid weekly in **advance**; account details can be obtained from the school office by calling the above number or emailing adminoffice@sharpscopse.hants.sch.uk; please include in the **subject heading** your child's name. If a **pre-payment** has been made and your child is absent, a **credit** will be made to their account and carried forward until their return to school.

Please note that if a child has a morning **medical/dental** appointment with the intention of returning to school before lunchtime, the school needs to be informed before **10am** so that a lunch can be **ordered** for them, after which the school expects their parent or carer to have made alternative lunch arrangements.

The services provided by Sharps Copse are no different to those provided by any other business in that meals and other services are paid for in **advance** and on **demand**. Most of our parents and carers understand that they can't take their child to McDonald's expecting the provision of food or their services without paying beforehand, or to expect a sports coach or music teacher to teach/coach their child without due fees being paid '**up front**' before delivery of the service or free of charge.

However a minority of our parents and carers don't pay on time for these services, which **potentially** places the school in a position of **subsidising** these families with funding that is intended by law to educate children, causing a considerable amount of extra work for our office staff as well as embarrassment for all concerned by chasing outstanding money owed to the school.

The Governors at Sharps Copse Primary School take the stance that the best way to approach this is to have a '**NO DEBT**' policy. We understand that this may be a very hard stance as there has in the past been a culture of debt tolerance, and that this will be tough to

implement. However, it should become easy to maintain once parents and carers realise our school only provide **free school meals** to children whose parents qualify for a Free School Meal, expanded or targeted, and/or Universal Free School Meals (UFSMs), applicable only to children in Years R – 2.

Parents and carers of children who have not paid in **advance** for lunches through SCOPay, or provided them with a packed lunch or made other arrangements will be contacted **immediately** by the office.

If a parent or carer genuinely forgets to pay, or has left the packed lunch at home and is unable to return, the school may grant a debt allowance of one meal; this will be dependent on whether there are other school debts. However this debt must be paid by the end of the day of receipt or at the latest the next day and future meals must be paid for in advance and before the provision of any more meals.

Parents and carers who make no **attempt/or are unable** to clear the debt, or to provide a packed lunch for their child or to make arrangements for them to be collected to go home for lunch, the school will have no alternative but to send a **final letter** from the Headteacher stating that it's unacceptable and legal proceedings may be forthcoming. Once this final letter has been issued, your child won't be able to receive **school lunches** until the debt has been cleared. There's also a possibility that Children's Services will be informed that you are not carrying out your **care of duty/responsibility** to your child by not providing food for them at lunchtime.

More details about our **school debt management** can be found in our **School Debt Policy** located by visiting our website at <https://www.sharpscapseprimary.co.uk/our-school/policies/> or a hard copy can be obtained on request via our school office.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on the above number, or catch me on the playground before or after school if you need further information about the content of this letter where I'll be more than happy to answer any concerns or queries you may have.

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely



Mike Elsen
Headteacher

Attachment: Revised Autumn/Winter 2026 School Meal Menu



SHARPS COPSE PRIMARY LUNCH MENU

2nd November 2026 – 22nd March 2027

Week 1 Commencing 02/11/26, 23/11/26, 14/12/26, 04/01/27, 25/01/27 & 08/03/27

DAY	RED CHOICE	GREEN CHOICE	BLUE CHOICE
Monday	Creamy Garlic Pasta	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Nut-Free Pesto Pasta	Jacket Potato and BBQ Beans
Tuesday	Pork Sausages with Mashed Potato	Sweet Potato & Lentil Curry with Wholegrain Rice	Tomato Pasta with Cheese
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with roast potatoes	Cheese and Onion Pie with Roast potatoes	Jacket Potato with Beans
Thursday	Beef Lasagne with a Garlic Doughball	Vegan Meatball Baguette with Potato Wedges	Tomato Pasta with Cheese
Friday	Fish Fingers with chips	Quorn Dippers with chips	Jacket Potato with Cheese

Week 2 commencing 09/11/26, 30/11/26, 11/01/27, 01/02/27, 22/02/27 & 15/03/27

DAY	RED CHOICE	GREEN CHOICE	BLUE CHOICE
Monday	Spicy Tomato Pasta Bake with a Garlic Doughball	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Nut-Free Pesto Pasta	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Coleslaw
Tuesday	Cheeseburger with Herby Diced Potatoes	Chinese Vegetable Rice	Tomato Pasta with cheese
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with roast potatoes	Quorn Roast with Potatoes	Tomato Pasta with cheese
Thursday	Hunter's Chicken with Potato Wedges	Beany Pasta Bake	Jacket Potato with BBQ Beans
Friday	Fish Fingers with chips	Quorn Dippers with chips	Tomato Pasta with Cheese

Week 3 Commencing 16/11/26, 07/12/26, 18/01/27, 08/02/27, 01/03/27 & 22/03/27

DAY	RED CHOICE	GREEN CHOICE	BLUE CHOICE
Monday	Red Pepper and Nut-Free Pesto Spaghetti	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Nut-Free Pesto Pasta	Jacket Potato with BBQ Beans
Tuesday	Homemade Pork Sausage Roll with Herby Diced Potatoes	Chinese Vegetable Noodles	Tomato Pasta with Cheese
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with mashed potatoes	Quorn Roast with Mashed Potato	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Thursday	Beef Bolognese with Wholegrain Rice	Macaroni Cheese	Tomato Pasta with Cheese
Friday	Fish Fingers with chips	Quorn Dippers with chips	Jacket Potato with Cheese