



**Education Resources and Community & Enterprise Resources**  
Executive Directors **Tony McDaid and David Booth**  
**Support Services and Facilities Services**

**Our ref:**  
**Your ref:**  
**If calling ask for:** School Office  
**Phone:**  
**Date:** March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

**School Meals : NEC Card – ParentPay – Fusion App**

As your child is due to transition to secondary school in August, we wanted to give you some information about how they will access school meals. The NEC card, ParentPay and the Fusion App are all interlinked.

The NEC (National Entitlement Card) is your child's access to library services, YoungScot benefits, U22 Free Bus Travel and is used as a payment card for cashless school meals. In preparation for your child starting secondary school, a NEC application form and photograph is required before the card is produced. Your primary school will issue this to you on return from the Spring Break, you are asked to return this application as soon as possible, but no later than **Monday, 25 April**. We would ask you to pay particular attention to Section 2 on Free Bus Travel and if your child already has an NEC card with free bus travel please note the card number.

For those pupils who have not applied for a NEC card with Free Bus Travel their photograph will be taken to allow their NEC card to be produced. For those pupils who have already applied for a NEC card with free bus travel they will not be issued with a new card at this stage, so that their free bus travel continues. Your child's NEC card will then be linked to their ParentPay account to allow it to work as a cashless card. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, then the daily meal allowance is automatically added to the NEC card.

You will be aware of ParentPay from your primary school as the cashless system operated across all South Lanarkshire Council schools for the purchase of school meals, trips, etc. Your account at primary school does not transfer automatically to the secondary school and therefore you will be issued with a new activation letter to link your child to their secondary school. This not only allows your child to purchase a school meal, but it is also the only way you will be able to pay for other activities, e.g. Home Economics, football fixtures. It is therefore important to link your child to the secondary school.

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Helpline: 0303 123 1023 Email: [edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)



A new activation letter will be sent to you via email prior to the start of term in August from the secondary school. If you do not have an email address then the letter will be posted to your home address. This will allow you to log-on to your ParentPay account and link your child to their secondary school. For your child to take a school meal then you just need to add money to their ParentPay account. Money can also be added to their account via PayPoint and the school office will be able to provide you with a barcode to allow you to do this at any PayPoint facility.

The Fusion App was introduced in 2020 for secondary school pupils and has been a great success. The Fusion App allows your child to pre-order morning snack and lunch in advance, thus eliminating the need to queue at the servery at break or lunch times. There is a dedicated collection point for Fusion App pre-orders – so it's just 'click and collect'. Similar to ParentPay you will receive an email prior to the start of term in August from the secondary school with your on-boarding code. All your child needs to do is download the Fusion Online App onto their mobile phone, register for an account and pop in the on-boarding code. Their ParentPay account just needs to be in credit and they are then ready to place an order.

For full details of the secondary lunch service please visit South Lanarkshire Council website, just type into the search bar "school lunches" and go to secondary schools for all the details, see link below:

[Secondary schools - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

We hope this gives you a bit of information regarding school meals at secondary school. The letters you will receive regarding NEC, ParentPay and the Fusion App will go into more detail of the actions you need to take to set each up.

Yours faithfully



**David Hinshelwood**  
**Support Services Manager**  
**Education Resources**



**Anne Goldie**  
**Facilities Services Manager**  
**Community & Enterprise Resources**