

NEWSLETTER

September 2026

Dear parent/guardian,

You are receiving this newsletter because you participate in the School Meals Programme. In this newsletter, you will find useful information and important updates.

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1. Results of the June 2026 evaluation

Last June, we asked parents/guardians and carers who use the grocery card about their experiences. The results show that the School Meals Programme is valuable support for many families:

- **81%** are very satisfied with the support.
- **68%** say their children eat healthier.
- **67%** experience less financial stress in their family.

Parents also shared questions and comments with us in the survey. Below, we answer some frequently asked questions.

Can secondary schools also join the programme?

Yes, secondary schools can also join the programme if they meet the [programme requirements](#).

Please note: a school may take part in the programme but choose '[Meals at School](#)' instead. In that case, you cannot apply for a grocery card for your child(ren) at that school.

Where can I use my grocery card?

You can use your grocery card at supermarkets and other food stores that sell food and drinks.

Contactless payment is not working. What should I do?

Normally, you can pay contactlessly with your grocery card. Is this not working? Please contact our [customer service](#). We will then investigate the issue.



2. Is your child going to a new school?

If your child moves to a different school, for example from primary school to secondary school, their grocery card registration will not transfer automatically.

- **Is your child attending the same school as a brother or sister who is already registered?**
Please inform the school. You do not need to register your child again.
- **Is your child attending a different school that also takes part in the grocery card programme?**
Then you need to register your child again. The new school can help you with this.
- **Is your child attending a different school that does not take part in the grocery card programme?**
Unfortunately, you cannot register your child again.

Please note: not all schools can take part in the programme. A school can only join if it meets the [programme requirements](#).

3. Help another parent

Many families still do not know about the School Meals Programme. Schools tell us that personal contact often works best. You may know someone who could use some extra support.

Do you know a parent who is struggling to pay for enough food for their children? Please tell them about the programme. We may be able to help that family too.



4. In conclusion

We do our best to improve the programme every day, together with schools and parents.
Do you have any questions or feedback? Visit our [website](#) or contact our [customer service](#).

We wish you and your family a wonderful school year!

With kind regards,

The Netherlands Red Cross - School Meals Programme



Would you like tips on healthy and affordable food and drinks for your child?
Then [sign up for free](#) for the webinar by the Voedingscentrum on 8 October.

The contact details for our customer service team are:



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