



30<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## Free School Meals – Eligibility, Registration and Impact

Dear Parent/Carer,

Did you know that **simply registering** your child for **Free School Meals** means your school can get extra money (Pupil Premium Grant)? If you are registered, you could also get help with the cost of school trips.

If you are eligible for free school meals (see **eligibility** below) and wish to register, you can simply contact the **Free School Meals Service** on **0300 123 7039**, who will help you register.

Simply registering means that school will get the extra money – no matter whether or not you want your child to take up the opportunity of a free, healthy lunchtime meal.

Please register ASAP to make sure your child and others in their class don't miss out.

***No-one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.***

If you would like to talk to us first, ask for our Family Liaison Officer (Maxine Nevitt), who will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Lee  
Headteacher

### Who is eligible for free school meals?

Your child can get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- Income-based **Jobseeker's Allowance**
- Income-related **Employment and Support Allowance**
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of **Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- **Working Tax Credit** run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- **Universal Credit** – if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of via a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

***Note that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically qualify for Free School Meals. Even so, if you also get any of the above qualifying benefits it is still worth registering for Free School Meals as this will allow school to access additional funding.***

Head Teacher – Lucy Lee

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