

08 March 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

I estimate that the school misses out on up to £100,000 a year because of the confusion surrounding Free School Meals and the little known Pupil Premium grant.

Children who are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are offered a free school lunch. This is a universal benefit and happens automatically. Children in other years are offered a free school lunch if their parent joint income is below £16,190 per year or are in receipt of any of the benefits listed below;

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on Universal Credit

What a lot of families do not realise is that a successful application (even in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) means that the school is awarded a Pupil Premium grant for each child attending the school. This is a grant given to the school to support the learning of children from low income families.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Parents may not realise their children are entitled to the Pupil Premium grant. If you earn below £16,190 or receive any of the benefits above please apply using the attached proforma.

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

Some parents do not want their child to receive a free meal. It is really important that if you earn below £16,190 or receive any of the benefits that you still apply using the attached proforma so that the school receives the Pupil Premium grant.

This could be money that your children are entitled to and can be used by the school in a number of different ways to support learning.

Please return to your child's class teacher.

Yours Sincerely



Malcolm Moaby
Headteacher

About this form

From September 2014 all children who are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 in a state-funded school will be offered a free healthy school lunch. Children in other school years will also be offered a free school lunch if their parent is receiving any of the welfare benefits listed overleaf.

Registering could raise money for your child's school

Registering for free meals could raise an extra £1,300 for your child's school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the welfare benefits listed in the form. It is therefore important to sign up for free school meals, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, so that your child's school receives as much funding as possible.

How the information in this form will be used

The information you provide in this form will be used by the Local Authority to confirm receipt of one of the listed welfare benefits. Once this is confirmed, this helps to decide how much money your child's school will receive each year.

The information will also be used in relation to children in Year 3 or above to decide whether they are eligible for free school meals.

You only need to complete this form once and it will last for the duration of your child's time at their current school.

Thank you for completing this form and helping to make sure your child's school is as well funded as possible.

We are committed to ensuring that the personal and sensitive information that we hold about you is protected and kept safe and secure, and we have measures in place to prevent the loss, misuse or alteration of your personal information.