



# The Free School Meals process is changing

You must apply for Free School Meals by adding your DOB and National Insurance Number to your guardian information with your child's school.

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOUR CHILD IS CURRENTLY RECEIVING FREE SCHOOL MEALS, YOU MUST STILL PROVIDE YOUR DETAILS TO RECONFIRM YOUR ELIGIBILITY DIRECT WITH THE ACADEMY - THIS ALSO APPLIES TO NEW YEAR 7 STUDENTS MOVING FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY. DON'T LET YOUR CHILD MISS OUT.

We encourage all parents and guardians to apply irrespective of their income. This is because if your circumstances change, you'll automatically be enrolled and your child can start receiving free school meals right away.

But it's not just about the free meals.

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals and you register them for this, we will receive extra funding called 'Pupil Premium'. This additional funding is used to improve educational provisions and resources at the academy.



### WHAT IS PUPIL PREMIUM?

Pupil Premium funding is a government initiative designed to help raise the attainment of students regardless of their background or financial situation.

It is provided to students who:

- are registered for Free School Meals;
- have been registered for Free School Meals at any point in the past 6 years;
- are, or have been, in care;
- have parents in the armed forces.

### HOW MUCH DOES THE ACADEMY RECEIVE FOR PUPIL PREMIUM?

We receive an extra £955 (figures for the 2020/21 financial year) for every eligible student who is registered for Free School Meals.

### WHAT DOES THE EXTRA FUNDING GO TO?

This extra funding could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer. For example,

- accelerated reading packages to raise reading ages and ability for students;
- extra participation in sports;
- raising aspirational interventions by mentoring groups of vulnerable students;
- allocating additional Learning Support Assistants in the classroom;
- social and emotional learning for our students;
- organising peer tutoring interventions.

### IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or 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
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

### DOES MY CHILD HAVE TO EAT THE FREE SCHOOL MEAL?

No. Students who are registered for Free School Meals do not have to eat them. If you are eligible but you want your child to have a packed lunch, you should still register because the academy will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

### WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?

- No awkward phone calls
- No need to share your information with everyone
- One simple application for the whole five years' of your child's education
- Fast and easy application process
- Automatically updated if your circumstances change
- Ensures your child has access to a nutritious meal every day at school
- No one will know your child is on free school meals



**APPLY  
ONLINE**