



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Are you on benefits with an annual income less than £16,190?

If yes, then your child could be having a hot meal every day, which may save you as much as £300 per year?

Even if your child doesn't have the hot meal OR they automatically qualify for the Universal Infant School Meal because they are aged under 7, please claim so that your child's school can receive additional funding to support their education.



Why apply?

- Your child does not need to have the hot meal but could still receive some of the other benefits.
- The government pays schools a Pupil Premium for each child eligible. This could be used for additional support in your child's classroom, or help with school trips or uniform purchase.
- School dinners provide a healthy, nutritious and tasty meal.
- Sitting down together eating a meal helps children develop their social skills.
- Menus, available from the school, are changed regularly.
- There is no distinction between pupils having a free meal and those not.
- Research shows that a hot meal can help children's concentration levels.

Free School Meals are for those pupils aged 4 to 16 (School Years R to 11) who attend both morning and afternoons sessions.

Your child could benefit if you receive one of the following:

- ◆ Income support
- ◆ Income-based Job Seekers' Allowance (IBJSA)
- ◆ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- ◆ Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ◆ The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- ◆ Child Tax Credit – provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have a 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

Children who get any of the above benefits in their own right (ie. they get benefits payments directly instead of through a parent of guardian) may also be eligible for Free School Meals.

NOTE: Parents in receipt of Working Tax Credit are not eligible

Applying is easy – please contact your child's school for more information.

Application for Pupil Premium Funding

For some children the government allocates schools with additional funding so that they can be provided with the best education and support. Could this be your child(ren)?

To help with this we would like some additional information from you

Family Income and Benefit Details

Is your joint family income under £16,190 per year?

☐ Yes (If yes, then please complete the form below and return to your child's school)

The Pupil Premium is funding allocated to schools for the specific purpose of boosting the attainment of pupils from low-income families. Funding is based on children who have been registered for free school meals at any time in the last 6 years, further reinforcing the importance of making sure all those who qualify are actually registered.

Even if you (or your child) don't want to receive free school meals on a regular basis, there may be other educational benefits for them through the Pupil Premium. Your child(ren) can have a free school meal any day they choose.

Taking up free school meals has many benefits:

- By claiming Free School Meals families could be saving more than £400 per child per year, and your child(ren) will benefit from a eating a free healthy nutritious meal
- Schools could benefit directly by receiving money from the government. The government pays schools £1,300 for every primary child and £935 for every secondary child who registers for free school meals plus additional funding through the schools' budget. Your school could benefit from thousands of pounds.
- There may be help with the cost residential school trips (your child's school will have more information about this).
- There may be help with travel costs to school
- There may be help with school uniform costs (through your child's school).

Details of person claiming benefits (Parent/Carer)

Date of Application					
Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)	Surname	Other Name	DD	MM	YY

Current Address (including postcode)

National Insurance Number or National Asylum
Support Service Reference Number (NASS No.)

Telephone

Mobile

Email

Relationship to child(ren)

DETAILS OF ALL DEPENDANT SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

Surname	Other Names	DOB (dd/mm/yy)	Gender	School attended at present

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

I am currently claiming (tick applicable)

- ☐ Income Support
- ☐ Income Based Jobseeker Allowance
- ☐ Employment & Support Allowance
- ☐ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ☐ The Guaranteed element of State 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

DECLARATION

I agree that you will use the information I have provided to process my claim for free school lunches and will contact other sources as allowed by law to verify my initial, and ongoing, entitlement. I agree to inform the school of any change in my circumstances.

Applicant Signature

Date
(dd/mm/yy)

Once completed please return this form to your issuing school or academy. Thank You

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PROCESSING OFFICE

Date Received

Checked By

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