

Dear Parent/Carer

## Re: Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding

As a Trust, we want to ensure that every child in our care receives the very best possible education and support. One important way we can do this is through additional funding that schools receive through Free School Meals (FSM) and Pupil Premium (PP).

Even if you're not sure whether you qualify, **taking a few minutes to complete the eligibility form could result in valuable support for both your family and your school.** With your consent, we can then apply for Free School Meals on your behalf if you are eligible. A successful application not only ensures your child receives a free, healthy meal each day but also unlocks vital funding that helps improve education for all pupils.

## Why This Matters

If your application is successful:

- **Your child will receive a healthy, free school meal each day**, helping them to stay focused and ready to learn
- **Your school will receive additional funding** (Pupil Premium) which can be used to:
  - Provide more staffing and specialist support
  - Improve academic progress through targeted teaching
  - Support wellbeing, attendance, and behaviour
- **It's completely confidential.** Your child(ren) will access their meal discreetly in the same way as everyone else, via the usual systems, and no other pupils are aware of who is receiving FSM

## Did You Know?

- Just **10 eligible pupils** could bring in up to **£15,150 per year in Primary schools**, and **£10,750 in Secondary schools**, funding which directly benefits pupils
- Schools receive **£2.61 each day per eligible pupil** towards the cost of providing a nutritious meal
- Once approved, schools receive ongoing funding for up to six years under the "Ever 6" rule, even if your circumstances change

## Are You Eligible?

Your child(ren) may be entitled to Free School Meals if you receive one of the following:

- Universal Credit (with a net annual income of no more than £7,400)

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Learning Trust Alliance Teacher Training Teaching School Hub

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- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual income is no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after stopping work)

## **How To Apply**

It only takes a few minutes to check your eligibility, and we will do the rest.

Please visit: <https://forms.office.com/e/LiivDUa8Jx>

Alternatively, you can apply yourself via the link below.

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/pp-rklt>

If applying yourself, please do so via this link rather than through the local authority to avoid our schools being charged for referrals.

Your application will automatically be checked weekly, so if your circumstances change, you may become eligible at any time.

If you require support with completing the eligibility application, please contact your school office and they will be happy to help you.

## **Helping Your School Helps Your Child**

By applying, you are not only supporting your child with a free meal each day, you are helping your school access funding to make a real difference in classrooms, resources, and staff support.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this. Together we can ensure every child gets the support they deserve.

Red Kite Learning Trust