



Hampshire
County Council



Dear Parents and Carers

Are you eligible for free school meals?

Do you know the benefits for your child and the school through registering for free school meals?

The Government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'.

This money could enable us to fund additional resources. For example, extra one to one tuition, new equipment and materials for pupils or provide extra classroom support. If you are registered for Free School Meals you could also get help with costs to support your child's education and achievement.

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

Please consider the following:

1. Check if you qualify. It is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the check list and refer to the website for more information on free school meals.
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>
2. Registering is quick and easy. If you think you qualify, you can register on line
<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants>
3. Your child will be entitled to a free, healthy meal at lunchtime (saving you more than £350 a year) and extra benefits. The school will also get additional amount to support your child and others to enjoy and achieve.
4. Your child will be entitled to free board and lodgings during residential visits saving you money on the cost of the visit.
5. You can decide not to take advantage of the free school meal, as long as you qualify and have registered, the school will receive the additional funding.

Please do not hesitate to talk to me further if you have any concerns or questions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jane Baker'.

Miss Jane Baker
Headteacher

DO YOU QUALIFY?

A child is eligible for free school meals if their parent or carer receives one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Job Seekers' Allowance
- income-related Employment and 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 are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, and have an annual gross income, of no more than £16,190 as assessed by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (Parents who are made redundant or start working less than 16 hours per week, may find their children are entitled to free meals for a limited period.)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (before September 2026 provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods, from September 2026 all pupils from families claiming universal credit)

No other benefits qualify for free school meals from Key Stage 2 (years 3, 4, 5, 6) or for the pupil premium for Reception Year and Key Stage 1 (years 1, 2).