



**ST. KATHARINE'S C.E. (V.A.) PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

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Grace ~ Integrity ~ Aspiration

26th April 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Pupil Premium funding and Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' (this is in addition to the universal free school meals that all Key Stage 1 children receive) **and you register them for this, we will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'**. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school and you would be helping us, if you are eligible and register.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil Premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It is provided for pupils 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

For example, we have previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/ resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and mental health
- Wider curriculum opportunities

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child is eligible for free school meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (**but no Working Tax Credit**) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- 4 Week run-on of Working Tax Credit which is paid when your Working Tax Credit has ceased
- Universal Credit with an annual income of no more than £7400.00 (after tax and deductions)

How do the school and children benefit?

Registering for free meals can also raise an extra £1,385 in funding each year for the school. This can fund valuable support and could make a significant difference to us and therefore your child.

Please register even if your child is currently receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

Universal infant free school meals (UIFSM)

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You should not confuse UIFSM with free school meals and the pupil premium.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals do not have to eat them. If you are eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches from home, you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

If you think you may be eligible please help your child and the school by:

- Applying online at: <https://www.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/Schools-and-learning/Free-school-meals/Free-school-meals.aspx>

This is the quickest and easiest way to check if you are eligible

- Email your completed form to: fsm@bcpcouncil.gov.uk or
- Complete the attached form and post your form to:
Free School Meals Team
Customer Services
BCP Council Civic Centre
Bournemouth
BH2 6DY

For further support with free school meals, please contact the BCP by telephone or email:

Telephone: 01202 123222

Email: fsm@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

If you have any queries regarding this application, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

Kind regards.

School Office