



Dear Parents and Carers,

Free School Meals Eligibility – Local Authority Identification Service

We currently receive information from the local authority on pupils who are eligible for free school meals. This only applies to children who are resident in Barnet.

To provide this service the LA will compare our current pupil list against the list of those families currently in receipt of benefits in Barnet. The LA will not be sharing any information on the nature of the benefits but only send us a list of pupils who are eligible.

When a pupil is on our Free School Meals register, the school receives extra funding for that pupil which has to be spent on improving the education for those on the FSM register.

If you wish your child to receive a free school meal from the beginning of term and/or if your address is outside Barnet, you will have to let us know and provide us with some key information to allow us to undertake a manual check in advance of the above automatic checking service (please see next page). Even if you do not wish your child to take up school meals, please come forward if you think you may be eligible, as both the school and children on the register in particular will benefit from the additional funding.

If you do not wish the local authority to perform this check for your child/ren or if you have any questions about this letter, please speak to Karen Cummins, Office Manager.

Important Note

If you wish to register for free school meals now and/or you live outside Barnet and think you may be eligible, please provide us with the following 3 items of information:

- Name of recipient of benefit(s)
- Date of birth of recipient
- National Insurance number of recipient

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

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers 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'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

Children who get any of the above benefits in their own right (i.e. they get benefits payments directly, instead of through a parent or guardian) can also get free school meals.

Yours faithfully

Simon Horne
Head Teacher