

16th June 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

We are delighted with the take up of Universal Infant Free School Meals, where all children from Reception to Year 2 are automatically entitled to a free meal.

In the past, parent's income has been assessed to see whether their child is entitled to a free meal at lunchtime.

In addition, for any child who is part of a low income family, the school is entitled to a Pupil Premium Grant (PPG). This equates to £1345 per pupil, which provides additional teachers and adult support for reading, writing and maths, as well as specialist resources. Children who are entitled to PPG may also receive financial assistance to cover the cost of some trips, sports clubs and music tuition (KS2).

Therefore, even if your child receives a Universal Infant Free School meal or indeed has packed lunches, we would still request you apply.

If your child is from a low income family due to you meeting the criteria below, please apply via the Waltham Forest website to register your child for free school meals. You can find the application form by following the link below.

<https://eclaim.walthamforest.gov.uk/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Waltham%20Forest%20Free%20School%20Meal%20Form%20%282.0%29.wdf>

Your child will be entitled to free school meals if they go to school in Waltham Forest, and you or your partner get one of the following:

- Income Support
- Universal Credit*
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The Guarantee Credit element of State Pension Credit
- Support from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS)
- Support from the Local Authority Social Services Asylum Team (SSAT)
- Child Tax Credit, provided that you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit (but see below), and your annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) is £16,190 or less
- Working Tax Credit for four weeks after your employment finishes

*Universal credit

- Free school meals now have amended regulations to implement a net earnings threshold of **£7,400** to come into force from 1 April 2018





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- Any pupil eligible for free school meals before 1 April 2018 will keep their free school meal eligibility until **31 March 2022**
- Any pupil who becomes eligible during the rollout of universal credit (from 01 April 2018 to 31 March 2022) will keep their eligibility until 31 March 2022
- Once the rollout of universal credit has completed (31 March 2022), any pupil losing will continue to be transitionally protected until the end of their current phase of education, e.g. primary/secondary school
- This applies whether parents receive universal or legacy benefits
- Pupils will keep their eligibility even if their circumstances change between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2022.
- A child will be transitionally protected not the family, so if a sibling is receiving free school meals and another child applies after 1 April 2018, there will be no transitionally protection (this also applies for a child who moves to live with another parent and/or family member)

If you are not sure if you are eligible please contact the school office as we can assist with checking eligibility and also help with your application. Be assured that all matters are dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Kind Regards

Mrs Nairne
Headteacher

HEADTEACHER: Claire Nairne

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: Afua Addai-Diawuo