

11th June 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Pupil Premium & Free School Meals

You may be aware that the government introduced the 'Pupil Premium Grant' in April 2011 and as a result schools are allocated additional funding into their school budget. The premium provides funding specifically for children from low income families who have registered. The purpose of the grant into schools is to raise achievement and improve outcomes for these children. As with with most schools it is likely that a number of our parents/carers fail to claim Free School Meals (FSMs) for their children, which is part of the Pupil Premium grant, even though they are entitled to them.

As the school will receive additional funding based on the number of children who receive FSMs, I am writing to all parents and carers to ask them to make a claim if they believe that they may be entitled to claim for their children and do not already do so. As I am sure you will agree, the children at our school can only benefit if we are able to attract additional funding. Not only that, our catering team provides an excellent range of healthy lunch options that are enjoyed daily by a significant number of our pupils. Your child may well be able to access these school dinners free of charge. **In addition to this, your child would be entitled to free school trips and one free club per year.**

We use the Pupil Premium grant in a number of ways, whilst ensuring it is carefully targeted for those eligible children in order to help them achieve their potential both academically and socially. The main ways we spend the money are:

- To fund or part-fund the provision of Teaching Assistant support for individuals, small groups and classes to help children to achieve their academic potential.
- To fund the provision of specific resources to support and improve achievement.
- To fund the provision of support for non-academic interventions to help increase self-esteem, develop social skills, improve relationships, confidence etc.
- To subsidise extra-curricular activities, visitors and performers to school.



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Your child may be eligible for Free School Meals as part of the Pupil Premium Grant. If you receive any of the benefits listed below, then please speak to Sarah Nicholls in the school office, who will be able to advise you on how to apply for Free School Meals (Pupil Premium Funding):

- Income support
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £16,190 without Working Tax Credit (as assessed by HMR&C)
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

In order to make the process easier, the school has invested in an Online Free School Meal Checker. The system allows for you to check you FSM eligibility online, without having to complete and submit the paper copy of the form. The link to the online application system can be found at www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims.

If you have any problems completing the application, a guidance document can be found on the school's website, or we will happily email it to you. Alternatively, if you would like the school to complete the application on your behalf, please come to the office and we can arrange a time to submit your application.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards,

Sarah Nicholls
School Business Manager



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