



Suckley School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY

Did you know that you may be eligible to claim for Free School Meals? The current criteria are as follows: -

Free School Meals can only be awarded if you or your partner are claiming either: -

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act, 1999
- Child Tax Credit, and your annual income is less than £16,190 as assessed by HMRC
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, and your annual household income is £7,400 per annum (£616 per month) or less after tax, and not including any benefits.

Even if your child is entitled to Free School Meals, many parents choose not to apply for them, but every valid claim will assist our school, as it will enable us to access the Government's pupil premium funding. If you are eligible you do not have to take them up immediately, or at all, the claim will be valid until such time your circumstances change.

As you are aware children in KS1 (reception, year 1 and year 2) are eligible for Universal Free School Meals this is rolled out to all children, there is no criteria to meet. However, that said, if you are eligible for the above you may be able to claim FSM in addition, again, this will help our school.



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To apply for Free School Meals, please submit an online application via the Citizen's Portal to register your details with Worcestershire Children First so that they can keep in touch with any updates. Please note that they are unable to add any further siblings when you are no longer eligible under the benefit related criteria.

The link to apply is

https://emsi.worcestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

I attach a Free School Meal information sheet to show you the benefits of applying if you qualify, for example, supermarket vouchers to the value of FSM are issued by the Council during school holiday periods to help with the cost of living. Further information can be found on Worcestershire County Council's website:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/schools-education-and-learning/free-school-meals>

If you do meet the criteria, it would greatly benefit our school if you apply. Whilst writing I would like to ensure you that this information will be treated in the strictest confidence, and should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

H Field

Helen Field
Headteacher