

FREE SCHOOL MEAL APPLICATION FORM



About this form

From September 2014 all children who are in reception, year 1 or year 2 in a state-funded school will be offered a free healthy school lunch. Children in other school years will also be offered a free school lunch if their parent is receiving any of the welfare benefits listed overleaf.

Registering could raise money for your child's school

Registering for free meals could raise an extra £1,320 for your child's school, to fund valuable support like additional learning support, free school uniform, or after school activities etc.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the welfare benefits listed in the form. It is therefore important to sign up for free school meals, even if your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2, so that your child's school receives as much funding as possible.

How the information in this form will be used

The information you provide in this form will be used by the School or Local Authority to confirm receipt of one of the listed welfare benefits. Once this is confirmed, this helps to decide how much money your child's school will receive each year.

The information will also be used in relation to children in year 3 or above to decide whether they are eligible for free school meals.

Thank you for completing this form and helping to make sure your child's school is as well funded as possible.

We are committed to ensuring that the personal and sensitive information that we hold about you is protected and kept safe and secure, and we have measures in place to prevent the loss, misuse or alteration of your personal information.

We will use the information you provide to assess entitlement to free school meals. The information may also be shared with other Council departments to offer benefits and services.



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CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS/CARERS RECEIVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ARE ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS:

- **Income Support (IS)**
- **Income based Job Seeker's Allowance (IBJSA)**
- **Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190**
- **The Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit**
- **Income related employment and support allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after their employment finishes or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week**
- **Universal Credit ****

Children who receive IS or IBJSA in their own right are also entitled to receive free school meals.

***Universal credit - During the Universal Credit pathfinder which started on 29th April 2013 children in families in receipt of Universal Credit will be entitled to FSM. [When all families are moved to Universal credit the criteria will change. This is yet to be determined by the DfE]*

Administration for the provision of free school meals is undertaken by the school. This form should be completed and returned to your child's school.

1. DETAILS OF PARENT/CARER WITH QUALIFYING BENEFIT – COMPLETE IN BLOCK LETTERS

SURNAME/FAMILY NAME as it appears on your benefit letter:

INITIAL:

DOB dd/mm/yyyy

NATIONAL INSURANCE NUMBER

OR

NATIONAL ASYLUM SEEKER NUMBER:

2. DETAILS OF CHILD / CHILDREN REQUIRING FREE SCHOOL MEALS

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	DATE OF BIRTH

3. DECLARATION

I declare that the information given on this form is true and complete and I undertake to inform the school if my entitlement to one of the qualifying benefits is terminated. I understand that I will be liable for any costs incurred in providing free school meals for my child(ren), should I fail to inform the school of the termination of my benefit.

I agree that you will use the information I have provided to process my claim for free school lunches and will contact other sources as allowed by law to verify my initial, and ongoing, entitlement to free school lunches.

I have read and I understand the above declaration.

SIGNATURE _____ (Parent/Guardian) DATE _____