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<u>Pupil Premium/Service Pupil Premium/Free School Meals Information for Parents</u>

The Government gives money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called Pupil Premium. For every child registered, our school receives a sum of money whether or not you choose for your child to have the free meal - you / your child may prefer a packed lunch. With this money we can increase our resources for the benefit of all the children.

There are two free school meal schemes:

Universal Infant Free School Meals and Income Related Free School Meals.

This is a Central Government initiative to provide free school meals to all children attending Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. This is called Universal Infant Free School Meals, and you may see the abbreviation UIFSMs used.

However, it is vital that families still register with the Free School Meals Team, if they meet the criteria set out below, even if their child is currently in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. This is important to the Pupil Premium funding schools receive, as this is generated by registered eligibility.

If you would like your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great - they will get a free meal (saving you more than £350 per year) and the school receives funding. If you don't want your child to have the school meals they can continue as normal - as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still receives funding.

Please be assured that staff at school do not receive information about your individual circumstances from Cheshire West and Chester. We are simply notified of eligibility start and end dates. Your child/children cannot be identified in any way to other pupils. If you have any queries regarding this information please speak to the Headteacher or one of our School Office Team.

Income Related Free School Meals Eligibility

Many families qualify for Free School Meals and may not realise it.

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support

















- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of 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 four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax
 Credit

What To Do If You Think You Are Eligible

All you have to do is phone Cheshire West and Chester on the number below and they will let you know if your child/ren are entitled to Free School Meals.

0300 123 7039



Alternatively you can complete an application online by visiting:

 $\frac{\text{https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/school-meals.aspx}$

Cheshire West and Chester will assess your claim to confirm your entitlement; if successful your claim will begin the same day. If your claim is not successful or if they require any further information they will contact you by phone or email.

Please have your National Insurance number available when you contact the Cheshire West and Chester team.

Service Pupil Premium (SPP)

The Department for Education introduced the Service Pupil Premium (SPP) in April 2011 in recognition of the specific challenges children from service families face and as part of the commitment to delivering the armed forces covenant. State schools, academies and free schools in England, which have children of service families in school years Reception to Year 11, can receive the SPP funding. It is designed to assist the school in providing the additional support that these children may need Eligibility

Pupils attract the SPP if they meet the following criteria:

- ✓ one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces
- ✓ they have been registered as a 'service child' in the school census at any point since January
 2011.
- ✓ one of their parents died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme
- ✓ pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full time reserve service are classed as service children

If you think your child is eligible for school to claim this funding (which equates to £300 a year) please contact the school office.

Please note, your child must be recorded as a Service child in the school January census for this funding to be secured.















