

12 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Expanded Free School Meals Eligibility

From the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year, the Government plans to expand access to Free School Meals to all children and young people from households receiving Universal Credit, and there will be two categories of eligibility:

- **Eligible Targeted:** this covers children in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less. These children will attract Pupil Premium and other disadvantage funding for their schools.
- **Eligible Expanded:** this covers children who are in households receiving Universal Credit with annual household earnings exceeding £7,400. These children will be entitled to Free School Meals only.

NB: Due to these changes, everyone currently eligible for Free School Meals will be required to reapply to continue to be eligible for Free School Meals. If you think you are eligible, we strongly recommend applying online as early as possible to allow for your application to be processed in readiness for the new academic year.

You can apply online via the Initio Free School Meals webpage: [Initio FSM Application](#). In order to apply you will need the following:

- Your own name and date of birth
- Contact details
- National Insurance Number or National Asylum Seekers Number
- Child's name and date of birth
- School your child is attending / will attend

If one or more of your children already get free school meals and you have a younger child starting school, you will still need to apply for that child. If your child is currently receiving Free School Meals, their eligibility will continue to be protected until the end of the current school year regardless of the outcome of your new application.



Most applications will receive an instant reply. If you have any further queries regarding Free School Meals or Pupil Premium funding, please contact the school:

Email: finance@queenelizabeths.com

Telephone: 01202 885233

Yours sincerely



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