



September 11th, 2020

Dear Year 3 parents,

Is your child still entitled to free school meals?

In KS1, your child was entitled to receiving free school lunches as part of the Government's Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) grant.

Now your child is in KS2, this grant no longer applies and there is a charge for school lunches.

However, your child may be eligible for free school meals in Year 3. Please see the information below about whether you may be eligible.

Free school meals

Free school meals are available to all eligible pupils attending Bromley maintained schools. An application must be submitted to secure both Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium Payment.

This funding could also enable your child to access additional means of support such as payment toward compulsory trips and supplying them with additional materials/uniform.

Who should apply?

Parents of children aged four or over attending a maintained school in Bromley who receive child benefit for their child/children and one or more of the following:

- Equal based JSA/ESA
- Income Support (IS)
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Income-related employment and support allowance (IRESA)
- Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM) AND PUPIL PREMIUM (PP)

What is Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium is additional funding given to schools to help raise the attainment of pupils. It is paid to schools according to the number of pupils who have been: Registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years.

In the financial year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021, pupil premium funding will be:

- £1,345 for each eligible primary aged pupil
- £955 for each eligible secondary aged pupil and
- £2,345 for those in care How is Pupil Premium used?

The funding can be used for a range of interventions including: help with costs of school trips, music fees, teaching assistant staff, after school programmes, equipment. To find out more about how this funding is used at your child's school, please contact the school or visit the school website.

Who is eligible for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium?

All children who are at school; and were under 19 at the start of the academic year; and are claiming or have parents who are claiming:



- Income support; or
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance; or
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance or
- Child Tax Credit, as long as you do not get Working Tax Credit and whose annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,190; or
- Support under part VI of the Immigration & asylum Act 1999; or
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit (with an annual take home pay of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

Note: Families in receipt of Working Tax Credit are not eligible for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium.

- Those entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week, are entitled to Free School Meals.
- The Pupil Premium will only be awarded to your school if you apply for Free School Meals, however, please note your child is not required to have the Free School Meals if they prefer not to.
- Children at a maintained Nursery must be attending both the morning and afternoon session on the same day to qualify. For more information on which Nurseries are maintained please contact the Education Welfare Benefits service.

Please note that the eligibility for FSMs has been extended to NRPF groups (those with No Recourse to Public Funds).

This has been changed to reflect the alteration to the annual household income threshold to £16,190 after tax.

Details of who falls into the NRPF groups can be found on the link below, but it is primarily for people who are currently subject to immigration control.

<http://www.nrpfnetwork.org.uk/information/Pages/who-has-NRPF.aspx>

Details

Once approved, your child/children will receive free school meals for a complete school year, as long as you are still entitled to the qualifying benefit. You must notify Bromley if there are any changes to your benefit entitlement. Parents and schools will be notified, in writing, of pupil's entitlement to free school meals/pupil premium. Schools will provide a lunchtime meal that meets the School Food Standards.

Applications for free school meals

You can apply online at:

https://www.bromley.gov.uk/site/xfp/scripts/xfpforms_form.aspx?formID=180

If you have any questions, please contact Emma East (Family Liaison Lead) via the school office.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Louise Field
Assistant Headteacher