

FREE SCHOOL MEALS FUNDING



During this time of uncertainty and change, the government are continuing to support families entitled to free school meals.

This means that during term time, if the academy is not open, you will be entitled to shopping vouchers for local supermarkets.

This will also mean that upon returning to school, your child will be able to access a free school meal each day and the academy will receive additional funding.

If you believe that you meet any of the criteria below it is vital that you make the online application using the link as soon as possible, this will only take a few minutes.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- 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 guaranteed 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 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

LINK FOR APPLICATION:

<https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/web/fsmweb/>

Frequently Asked Questions:

My child is in Reception/Year 1/Year 2 and receives a free school lunch, does this mean that I will get a government supermarket voucher whilst the academy is closed?

All children in reception, year 1 or year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch each day as part of a government initiative - this does not have to be applied for. However, upon leaving year 2 your child will no longer receive a free school meal unless you are eligible and have applied for free school meals.

As my child is in reception/year 1/year 2 and already gets a free school lunch, there is no point in me applying until they get to year 3.

Even if your child does receive a meal because they are in Reception or Key Stage 1, you should still apply if you believe you are eligible. This will mean that you may receive a food voucher or hamper during term time school closure and that the academy will receive additional funding.

If you have any questions, queries or need help with making your application, please email:
headteacher@gentleshawprimary.academy