

Free School Meals and extra funding for your school

By being registered for free school meals your child will receive a meal free of charge and your school will receive extra funding.



We would like to invite all parents/ carers to complete a free school meals registration form for their child.

If you're eligible now we will register you, otherwise we will continue to check your details for ongoing entitlement and will automatically register your child if you become eligible at a later date.

Your child does not need to take the meal if you would prefer them not to, but by being registered, your school will still receive the extra funding.

If you're eligible, you are most likely to retain your eligibility until the end of your child's current phase of education even if your circumstances change. You need only apply once.

Pupil Premium extra funding

This funding is used to help your child.

Reception to Year 6:

£1320 per year

Year 7 to Year 11:

£935 per year

Don't delay, apply today!

You can get an easy to complete registration form from:

- Your child's school
- https://go.walsall.gov.uk/free_school_meals
- Visiting the benefits service at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall
- By phoning 0300 555 2855



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Free School Meals and Early Years Pupil Premium for Nursery and Infant School age children

By being registered for free school meals/early years pupil premium, your school will receive extra funding.

We would like to invite all parents/carers to complete a free school meals/early years pupil premium registration form for their child.

If you're eligible now we will register you, otherwise we will continue to check your details for ongoing entitlement and will automatically register your child if you become eligible.



Free School Meals for reception to year 2

Infant age children in reception to year 2 are entitled to a meal free of charge under a government scheme called universal infant free school meals, but your school still needs you to register to enable them to receive the extra funding.

Your child does not need to take the meal if you would prefer them not to, but by being registered your school will still receive the extra funding.

If you're eligible, you are most likely to retain your eligibility until the end of your child's current phase of education even if your circumstances change.

Pupil Premium is funding of £1320 per year to help your child.

Early Years Pupil Premium for Nursery age children

This is additional funding of up to £302 available to the nursery to help your child. The registration form will be checked again when your child starts school to confirm eligibility for free school meals.

Don't delay, apply today!

You can get an easy to complete registration form from:

- Your child's school
- https://go.walsall.gov.uk/free_school_meals (FSM only)
- Visiting the benefits service at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall
- By phoning 0300 555 2855



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Free School Meals Service

Changes to Free School Meals from 1 April 2018



From 1 April 2018 there will be changes to the eligibility criteria and administration of Free School Meals.

The main changes are:

- There is a transitional protection that will protect most children listed as being eligible for Free School Meals on 31 March 2018. These children will retain their eligibility until March 2022, or until the end of their current phase of education: primary or secondary, if after 2022
- New eligible children added after 1 April 2018 will also retain their eligibility under the transitional protection
- Children who are protected will retain their eligibility regardless of changes to circumstances. After 1 April 2018, if a family is no longer eligible, children not already registered will not be eligible to receive a free school meal
- Children of the same family will not necessarily all be eligible. Transitional protection only applies to a child, not a family
- These changes will not affect universal infant free school meals
- Children currently registered for early years pupil premium will not come under the transitional protection when starting in reception
- We will have a few children that fall outside of these changes. We will notify you directly about these children
- For guidance from the Department for Education please visit www.gov.uk/government/publications/free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools-and-local-authorities



Walsall Council

Transition arrangements for protected free school meals:

If child is eligible for
Free School Meals as of
31/03/2018

If new eligible child is added
for Free School Meals after
01/04/2018

The child:

Retains eligibility regardless of changes in
circumstances until **March 2022**.

After **March 2022** if the child is still in education they
are still eligible until the end of their current phase
of education: Primary, Secondary

Reports from 1st April 2018

Change Report:

Monday 16 April 2018

Take off – Eligibility ended before 31 March 2018 so will not retain eligibility

Add on – New awards (These children will now retain eligibility)

Full Report

Tuesday 17 April 2018

Includes all eligible children (Children listed as eligible 31 March 2018 and any
new add on children)

Contact us

Please contact us with any questions or comments



Dedicated phone line for schools: **01922 650 443**

Lorraine, Linda, Deborah, Chhaya or Bobby are here to help



Secure email address for all FSM password protected enquiry forms:

FreeSchoolMeals@walsall.gov.uk

We will notify you with any additional changes to the
information provided in this leaflet, that we become aware of.