

Arnold Mill Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - PLEASE READ

This is particularly relevant to parents of children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 who currently receive Universal Free School Meals, are eligible for benefits related Free School Meals but haven't yet applied (see below for eligibility criteria). Apply by 31st March 2025 to be guaranteed free meals to the end of primary school.

Eligibility criteria:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earning from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- <u>Child Tax Credit</u> (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after the person stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

If you are in receipt of one or more of the above qualifying benefits, you should apply for Free School Meals and Milk before 31st March 2025. If you apply before this date, your eligibility will continue until the end of primary school. If you apply after this date, you will be rechecked on a regular basis and eligibility could end as a result.

My child doesn't want school meals/milk, should I still apply?:

Yes, it is still worth applying, as the school receives valuable extra funding called Pupil Premium for each child who is eligible. This in turns benefits your child. They may also be entitled to other benefits, like free holiday clubs.

Apply for Free School Meals & Milk using this link

Yours faithfully

Oldfield

Mrs Jackie Oldfield Head Teacher

IT'S MORE THAN A FREE SCHOOL MEALS APPLICATION

Did you know that free school meal applications assist in so much more than just free meals? Take a look!



Free School Meals

Free school meals guaranteed until the end of primary school (if application made by 31st March 2025*)



Children will be eligible for free milk throughout primary school (universal entitlement ends at age 5)



School will receive Pupil Premium funding for every child entitled to free school meals



Access to Holiday and Food Programme, giving free activities during school holidays

*Regular eligibility checks will be made by Nottinghamshire County Council for applications received after 31st March 2025 and Free School Meals would cease if you no longer meet the criteria