

04 September 2026

Dear Parent / Carer / Guardian,

Re: Important Changes to Free School Meals (FSM)

From September 2026, all children whose household receives Universal Credit will be eligible for free school meals, regardless of household income.

Your child may be eligible to receive free school meals if your family receives:

- Universal Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- The Guarantee Credit element of Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Certain support available to families with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)

From September 2026, there will be two types of FSM:

Targeted FSM

- For children in households receiving Universal Credit, with annual earnings of £7,400 or less.
- These pupils will receive free school meals and schools will also receive additional funding (Pupil Premium) to support these pupils.

Expanded FSM

- For children in households receiving Universal Credit, whose earnings are above £7,400.
- These pupils will receive free school meals, but not Pupil Premium funding.

Even if your child currently gets free school meals under older rules, ALL families must submit a new application to ensure they meet the updated September 2026 criteria. Families must make an application, and have their eligibility checked, for free school meals to be provided.

How to Apply

1. **Apply Online:** Please visit our local application portal at <https://fsm.lgfl.net/>
2. **What You Need:** You will just need your National Insurance number (or National Asylum Support Service number) and your basic details.
3. If you have more than one child, you must submit an application for each child.

Please contact the school office for further support.

Kind regards,

Mr. McManus

Deputy Headteacher