



22 September 2021

Dear parents, guardians and carers

## **Parents missing out on free school dinners for their children worth £400 per year – how to apply!**

School dinners have changed in the past few years. In fact, all food served at school has changed. More food is cooked from fresh ingredients and more fruit, vegetables and fresh products are served. Gone are many of the ready-made foods, regular chips, crisps and chocolates. Instead, the meals are balanced and tasty, with plenty to choose from. With the Free School Meals scheme, your child could have access to this food along with other opportunities at school, not forgetting you won't have to remember to make a packed lunch or top up their Wise Pay account every Sunday night!

**Did you know ... just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school gets extra money?**

**For every child registered Poole High School gets £955 this year!**

With this money we could provide more interventions to accelerate children's academic progress as well as interventions to develop self-esteem, self-confidence and social emotional skills.

**Please register as soon as possible to make sure your child and others in their class don't miss out.**

Take a look at the questions in the box below to assess your family's opportunity for free school meals or visit the BCP website to find out more and apply:

<https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/childreneducation/Schools/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

### ***If you receive any of the following you may be entitled to have free school meals***

- Income Support
- Jobseeker's Allowance (income based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income based)
- Child Tax Credit based on income below £16,190
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Asylum Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' (this is the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 per year after tax and not including any benefits you get.

Children who receive Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance in their own right qualify as well.

\* Families who receive any level of Working Tax Credit are not entitled to free school meals.

If your family qualifies for any of the above, please complete the attached Free School Meal application form and return it to school. We can send this form to the Borough of Poole on your behalf. The Borough will usually notify us of a successful application within ten working days of receiving the application form.

We have a discreet system at school for children who are entitled to Free School Meals. For example, our cashless system means every student, including students entitled to free school meals, have the same fob system but theirs will automatically be topped up.

If you have any questions regarding free school meals, please contact us  
[h.saunders@poolehigh.poole.sch.uk](mailto:h.saunders@poolehigh.poole.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely



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