

July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

In September 2023, Southwark Council started free healthy secondary school meals for pupils in households receiving Universal Credit with household earnings above £7,400.

From September 2026 this is changing so that central government will be funding the meals rather than Southwark.

The council is working with Spa Bermondsey over the summer holidays to prepare for this change over.

There is no action required from you as they will work with the us to register your child.

Please note, if your circumstances have changed (for example, you no longer receive Universal Credit), your child may not be eligible for expanded FSM.

For more information, please see the FAQs on the reverse of this letter and this page:
<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2025/06/expanding-free-school-meals-what-parents-need-to-know/>

If you have any further questions, please contact schoolfood@southwark.gov.uk

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Quigley'.

Georgina Quigley
Headteacher

Frequently asked questions

Question	Answer
If my child/children are eligible for 'expanded FSM', how long will I continue to get free meals?	Until the end of July 2027 and then your eligibility will be rechecked.
When will my child/children be moved from Southwark Council's free healthy secondary school meals to expanded FSM?	During the summer school break (end of July to August 2026). You will not lose any meals you are entitled to during the current summer term.
Do I need to apply for expanded FSM?	No, Southwark Council and your school will work together to enrol your child/children automatically.
My child/children are not eligible for expanded FSM, what support can I get for food?	Please refer to the following resources here: www.southwark.gov.uk/food-cost-support
I have read about another free school meal category called 'targeted FSM', what does this mean?	This is the current national government offer. Targeted FSM is for families in receipt of Universal Credit but with annual household earnings of £7,400 <i>or less</i> .
Who can I contact for further questions?	Contact schoolfood@southwark.gov.uk

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