

Apply for Free School Meals

& Help Unlock Government Funding for Your Child's School!

Is My Child Eligible for Free School Meals?

Your child may qualify for free school meals if you receive certain benefits. Any parent or carer in England can check here, even if your child's school isn't signed up. It's free to use (run by LGfL, an education charity) and you'll get an instant result checked securely against government records.

☰ Qualifying Benefits Include

- ✓ Universal Credit
- ✓ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- ✓ The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- ✓ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ✓ Child Tax Credit (if not receiving Working Tax Credit)
- ✓ Working Tax Credit run-on

Conditions apply to some benefits – the quickest way to find out is to run a check.

📅 Free School Meals Expansion

From September 2026, free school meals in England have expanded to **all children in households receiving Universal Credit, regardless of how much you earn.** It's one of the biggest changes to free school meals in years, with over half a million more children expected to qualify.

Run a free eligibility check now to find out straight away whether your child qualifies for free school meals.

IF ELIGIBLE



Your child gets a free, nutritious lunch every school day.



Save around £500 per child, per year on the cost of school lunches.



May unlock additional Pupil Premium funding for your school – supporting things like tutoring, trips and clubs.

Your child's school is notified automatically if they use the checker, or simply share your email receipt with them as proof of eligibility.

Check Now



Free School Meals
Eligibility Checker

For further information and to check your child's eligibility, please visit <https://fsm.lgfl.net/>