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*Headteacher: Mr S Parker* ***‘Growing Together. Empowered to be more’***

**Applying for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium**

[**https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-trafford**](https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-trafford)

Dear Parents and Carers,

If your child is eligible for ‘free school meals’ our school receives extra funding…and this is called ‘pupil premium’. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources for your child. This funding is £1,320 for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money can make a real difference to the education of your child (which can be used for additional resources, tutoring and even contributions towards trips and certain other school events) and so it is extremely important that the school receives this funding for every child who is eligible.

**Universal infant free school meals**

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 they are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn’t confuse UIFSM with free schools meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, **you still need to register for free school meals because we’ll receive the extra pupil premium funding for them.**

**What is pupil premium?**

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It’s provided for pupils who:

* Are registered for free school meals
* Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
* Are, or have been, in care
* Have parents in the armed forces

For example, we’ve previously used pupil premium funding for:

* Educational provision/resources
* Academic interventions
* Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

**Is my child eligible for free school meals?**

Your child might be eligible if you access:

* Income Support
* Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
* Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
* The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
* Child Tax Credit (provided you’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
* Working Tax Credit run-on
* Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

To check eligibility for free school meals (and also pupil premium), all you need to do is to go to the following link and fill in some details:

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-trafford>

or call into/contact the school office and we can help you apply.

If you would like any further information or support in checking your eligibility, please do get in touch…as mentioned, the funding could make a huge difference to your child and our school!

Yours sincerely,

***Simon Parker***

Headteacher