

Free School Meals

Free school meals are available to some children according to family income. It's important to register for entitlement to free school meals, even if your child has a packed lunch-this is so we can receive additional funding (called pupil premium) which we can use to help your child.

Is my child eligible?

Free school meals are offered to children whose parents receive:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related 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 - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling they are in on 31 March 2022.

How to apply

Please speak to Mrs Steptoe or Mrs Keane in the school office, in confidence. We are able to check eligibility through Oxfordshire County Council. In some circumstances we may ask for proof of eligibility.

When to apply

You should apply to school when you first start to receive benefits. **Claims cannot be backdated.** Eligibility will be regularly checked.

Universal Infant Free School Meals in England

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they are in years R,1 or 2. These are different from Free School Meals and aren't income related. Please let us know if your child is in these years and you claim these benefits as we are able to claim additional Pupil Premium Funding for them.