



STOWFORD SCHOOL

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www.stowford.devon.sch.uk

25th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Pupil Premium (PP) and Free School Meals

All children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. However, if your child is eligible for 'pupil premium free school meals' (see criteria below) and you register them for this, the school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

I am writing to everyone to ask you to consider whether you meet the eligibility criteria (see below) and, if so, ask you to apply for 'PP free school meals'. This request is made to all parents and carers throughout the school community, from Foundation to Year 6.

What is pupil premium funding?

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.

Stowford School will get an extra £1,320 [these figures are for the 2019/20 financial year] for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money does make a real difference to the quality of education we offer. For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions
- Support for children to attend school day and residential visits.

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)

Universal infant free school meals:

As you are aware, pupils in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 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 Foundation, Year 1 or Year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still



register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding. If your child has recently moved from Year 2 to Year 3 please do consider applying for PP Free School Meals.

How to apply:

The quickest and easiest way to apply is through the Citizen Portal

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCitizenPortal_live

The Portal will result in an instant decision; parents/carers can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

It would also be extremely beneficial to the school if you could apply before the school Census Day on Thursday 3rd October.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

More information about pupil premium:

For more information about pupil premium please visit our website www.stowford.devon.sch.uk, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

If you have any questions or specific concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mrs Fitzpatrick via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support of Stowford School.

Best wishes



Mrs Sue Williams
Headteacher

School Census 3rd October 2019 - UIFSM

On Thursday 3rd October the School Census will be conducted and the number of children in Foundation, Year 1 or Year 2 who have the meal they are entitled to under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme is recorded. If your child is in one of these classes, please encourage them to have a school dinner on this day as this has a direct impact on continued funding for these meals.

Census Day Menu:

Sausages or vegetarian sausages/mash/veg/Yorkshire pudding and gravy followed by chocolate pudding and chocolate sauce.

School meals are healthy and nutritious and lots of children enjoy them every day. Research shows that children who have a nutritionally balanced meal (rather than one that has too much sugar and fat) are better able to concentrate in lessons. All meals prepared at this school comply with the government 'Standards for school food in England'.