



September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

### Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium grant was introduced in 2011 and is a sum of money given to schools each year by the government to improve the attainment of eligible students.

Eligible students include those who:

- are currently claiming Free School Meals (FSM)
- have claimed school meals in the last six years (Ever 6)
- are 'In Service' by having parents who have served in the armed forces within the last 4 years
- are Looked After Children (LAC)
- who are post-LAC (have been adopted from care)

If you think that your child may be eligible for Free School meals, we encourage you to apply, even if your child does not want the meal, so that they can take advantage of this additional funding.

Families who receive the following are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM):

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- 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 guarantee element of state 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 four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

In addition, the following students will be protected against losing their free school meals as follows:

- From 1 April 2018, all existing free school meals claimants will continue to receive free school meals whilst Universal Credit is rolled out. This will apply even if their earnings rise above the new threshold during that time
- In addition, any child gaining eligibility for free school meals after 1 April 2018 will be protected against losing free school meals during the Universal Credit rollout period
- Once Universal Credit is fully rolled out, any existing claimants that no longer meet the eligibility criteria at that point will continue to receive free school meals until the end of their current phase of education (i.e. primary or secondary)





Students who have ever been in care, and are now adopted are eligible for an enhanced grant. This information is not readily available to the school; if you think your child is eligible for this grant please contact us in confidence so we can ensure that the students are receiving it.

To check your eligibility please visit Leicester City Council's website:

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/grants-and-allowances/free-school-meals/>

The funding from the Pupil Premium grant is allocated to a range of strategies identified by the school to improve outcomes for Pupil Premium students. Some examples of Pupil Premium allocation are:

- Supporting students with electronic technology for home learning
- Supporting literacy activities to promote a love of reading
- Providing the support of Teaching Assistants and an Academic Mentor
- Using the National Tutoring Programme to support students with their learning
- Providing opportunities for students to take part in the Scholars Programme
- Purchasing academic materials and resources to be used in lessons
- Taking targeted students to careers and university events

A full breakdown can be seen by downloading the Pupil Premium Strategy document (updated annually) found on the College website.

**We continue to allocate each eligible student £100 of Pupil Premium funding to use toward educational resources and activities.**

If your child is eligible for the Pupil Premium grant, you may request for items to be paid for from that grant up to the amount of £100. Please note that only school items may be purchased with this money. We will send a list of possible resources and/or activities to help you with your planning in the near future.

If you have any questions about the Pupil Premium grant or the personal allocation, please contact our Pupil Premium mentor, Mrs Lorna White. You can contact her on [lorna.white@sirjonathannorth.org.uk](mailto:lorna.white@sirjonathannorth.org.uk) or on 0116 270 8116. Ext: 3728.

Yours faithfully

Liz Young  
Assistant Principal  
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