

September 2015

Dear Parent / Carer

Applying for Free School Meals – (Eligibility Checking)

This is to let you know that you can now apply online for free school meals for your child. Here is web address for the application:

<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/learning/schools/schoolmeals/fschm.aspx>

However, if you prefer you can still complete a paper application and hand it into the school that can apply via the web form on your behalf, and let you know the result.

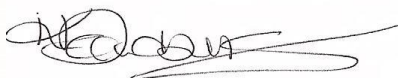
Applying for free school meals not only gives your child the opportunity to have a meal but the Government also gives the school additional money to help with your child's education. In the new financial year this has been increased and it is therefore to your child's advantage that you apply for free school meals even if your child doesn't actually take up the offer of a meal.

The criteria for free school meals are:

- *Income Support (IS)*
- *Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)*
- *Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) that does not exceed £16,190.*
- *Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit*
- *Employment & Support Allowance Income Related (ESA)*
- *Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
- *Where you are entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment ceases, or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week, your child is entitled to Free School Meals*
- *Universal Credit*

If you have any queries regarding free school meals please contact the school office.

Yours faithfully



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Assistant Principal
Community Aspirations



Principal - Mr Phil Humphreys

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