

5th January 2023

Re: pupil premium and free school meals

Dear parent/carer,

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at Fairfield School.

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
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At Fairfield School we get an extra £1,385 for primary aged children and £985 for secondary aged children (2022/2023 financial year) for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for innovative approaches and specialist pedagogy focusing on:

- Communication
- Makaton
- AAC
- ASC
- Music Therapy
- MSI
- Peer Massage
- Intensive Interaction

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or 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
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, 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 school 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 should still register now because if you don't register the UIFSM entitlement will automatically stop in year 3.

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, or your child maybe tube fed you should still register, because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please visit <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/schools/free-school-meals.aspx>

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website at <https://fairfieldschool.uk/pupil-premium/>, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

Yours sincerely



Steve Walsh
School Business Manager