

9th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Free School Meal Eligibility - Important Changes

We are writing to inform you about important changes to Free School Meals that will come into effect from September 2026. This is a national change by the government and does not affect the Free School Meals all primary school children living in London currently receive as part of the Mayor of London's scheme. Those children will continue to access a free school meal until further notice.

The Government is expanding Free School Meal eligibility so that all children from households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to a free school meal, regardless of household earnings. This means that many more families may now qualify for Free School Meals than under the previous eligibility criteria.

Temporary protections that have allowed some pupils to remain eligible for Free School Meals, even if their family circumstances changed, are now ending. As a result, all pupils who currently receive benefits-related Free School Meals will need to have their eligibility re-checked before the start of the new academic year.

From September, eligibility for Free School Meals will be split into the two categories below:

Targeted Free School Meals: For families whose income is below the £7,400 threshold. Their children will be entitled to Free School Meals and currently receive supermarket vouchers in the holidays and access to the HAF scheme.

Expanded Free School Meals: For families who earn in excess of £7,400 but are on Universal Credit. Their children will be entitled to a free school meal only

If your child is currently eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals, the school office will complete a re-check before the beginning of September. If we require any information from you to complete this check, we will contact you. We will let you know if your child is no longer eligible for Free School Meals.

If your child is not currently receiving benefits-related Free School Meals, we strongly encourage you to check whether they are now eligible by clicking on the following link: <https://fsm.lgfl.net/> The Free School Meal check is very simple and the school will automatically receive the outcome.



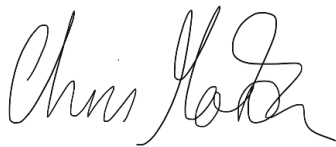
If you are unable to carry out the check yourselves, we can do this on your behalf. Please ask the school office for a Free School Meal application form.

Even if your child already receives a free school meal through the Mayor of London's scheme, it is still very important that you apply for benefits-related Free School Meals if you think you may be eligible. Registering for benefits-related Free School Meals enables the school to receive additional funding through Pupil Premium, which helps us provide extra educational support, resources and opportunities for eligible pupils. If your child is eligible, registering also ensures that they continue to receive a Free School Meal should the Mayor of London's scheme change in the future.

If you have any questions or require assistance with checking your eligibility, please contact the school office and they will be happy to help.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mr C Marston
Head Teacher