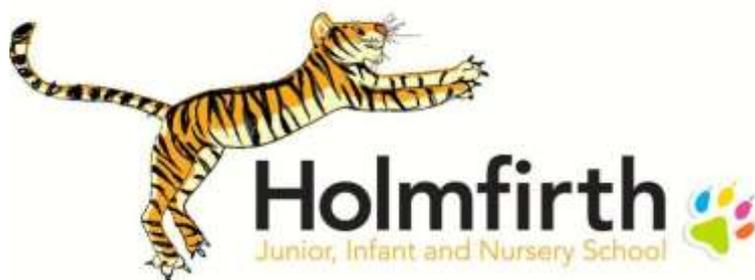


29 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Pupil Premium and Free School Meals



We are very aware that life for many people has changed significantly over the past 3 months. If your employment status has changed in the last few months you may be eligible to register for Free School Meals. Over the summer break the families of each child who is eligible for Free School Meals will receive a voucher for £15 per week to help pay for meals for the family whilst school is closed in the summer holidays, which totals £105 per child (all children, apart from children in Nursery, are eligible). If you feel you are now eligible and would like to claim please follow this link to the Kirklees website <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/schools/free-school-meals.aspx>. Applications can be made online and take 10 minutes – so it worth checking to see if you may be eligible. Schools must apply for these vouchers no later than 9 July so you must make an application to Kirklees Council in the next few days to ensure that we receive confirmation of your eligibility in the next week or so.

Please be assured that there is no ‘stigma’ attached to claiming free school meals – children are not aware who is on free school meals and who is not. All information is kept confidential within school. Also, 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 the 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 Holmfirth J I & N School we get an extra £1345 (2020/2021) 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

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

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

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 schools 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 because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

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.

How do I register?

To register, please: follow this link to the Kirklees Council website
<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/schools/free-school-meals.aspx>

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, 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 contact me via the school office in the first instance.

Kind regards

Alex

Alex Sykes
School Business Manager



**CONFIDENCE
LEARNING
ENJOYMENT
ACHIEVEMENT
RESPECT**

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