



February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Re: pupil premium and free school meals**

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 for your child within 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

The Government, as of 2018/19 funds up to £1,320 per child who is eligible for pupil premium/ free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer to your child.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Daily intervention with a team of teaching assistants, working on specific needs and requirements
- Intensive support from a qualified teacher to work on smart targets
- Bereavement/Emotional Well-Being Counselling with a trained teaching assistant
- Residential visits and day trips paid for as and when required.

### **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)

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?**

You only need to register once and once per family. Children aged 3 and 4 (Nursery) are eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium and has a similar eligibility, to check you simply give your National Insurance number to Miss. Miller who submits this when claiming childcare hours, a EYPP leaflet is part of Acorn Welcome Pack.

To register, please visit <https://shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/>

If you would like support filling out the form or would like to know more please speak to Miss. Parry or Mrs. Holland in the office.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss. N Parry