

11th March 2011

Dear Parents,

Free School Meals

I would like to make you aware that part of our funding for school is based upon the number of children who are eligible for free school meals whether or not they actually have them.

I am very concerned we are not receiving our full financial entitlement because a significant number of you are not claiming for free school meals. This could mean that we are not receiving valuable funding and I am sure you would want us to have the correct level of funding to improve the quality of education for our pupils.

In addition to the above funding, this academic year we will be allocated an extended services grant for every child entitled to free school meals. This means if your child is entitled to free school meals, we are able to pay for them to attend a paid after school club. This arrangement will be totally between you and the school and your child will not be made to feel different but will be able to enjoy extra activities; something they are entitled to.

For the school to access this money, an application form needs to be completed. You can claim free school meals if you are in receipt of Income Support, Asylum Support, Child Tax or Pension Credit, Employment & Support Allowance or Job Seekers' Allowance. Forms are available from the school office. I would like to emphasise claiming for free school meals is confidential. If your child is registered for free school meals but prefers to bring in sandwiches this is obviously acceptable.

To benefit every child in our school, we are appealing to all parents who may be eligible for free school meals to apply as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Pratt
Headteacher