



Headteacher: Mr D Reeve BSc (Hons)

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Is your child Eligible for Free School Meals? It could save you over £40 a month!

Due to the current financial climate many people's family circumstances have changed. I feel that it is important to make you aware that parents do not have to pay for school lunches if they receive any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- **Working Tax Credit run-on** (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- **Universal Credit**

Children who receive any of the qualifying benefits listed above in their own right are also eligible to receive free school meals.

You may like to contact the school and we will be able to tell you what you need to do to register your child as eligible, or you can visit the Hertfordshire County Council website directly using the link below:

- Main page: <https://beta.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>
- Online Application process: [https://www.hertsdirect.org/ufs/ufsmain?ebz=1\\_1461925056644&ebd=0](https://www.hertsdirect.org/ufs/ufsmain?ebz=1_1461925056644&ebd=0)

Some frequently asked questions:

- 1. Would everyone know my child is having free school meals?** *No. Due to the biometric system of purchasing food money is credited to students' accounts the same as students that don't have free school meals.*
- 2. Can my child buy the same food as those who pay?** *Yes. Your child can have free choice to buy a healthy balanced meal.*
- 3. How much would my child receive per day?** *£2.50*
- 4. Can I top up this amount with extra money?** *Yes. Money can be paid onto your child's account by the money machines in school or using parent pay via our website (<https://www.parentpay.com>)*

As well as your child receiving free school meals, the school will receive additional funding. This money will be used to ensure your child achieves their full potential.

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