

Beaconhill Community Primary School
Langdale Drive
Cramlington
Northumberland
NE23 8EH
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Email: admin@beaconhill.northumberland.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr Joel Routledge B.Ed NPQH



Wednesday 11th September

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Pupil premium and free school meals

If your child is eligible for free school meals and you register for them via the link at the bottom of this letter, we will receive extra funding referred to as the 'Pupil Premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at our school. As you will know, schools nationally are operating with increasingly stretched budgets. A strong budget allows us to invest in staff and resources and give all children the best possible chance of being happy and successful in school.

If you are eligible for **Free School Meals** and you complete the form by following the link (see below), you will also be entitled to **support vouchers** to go towards food and school uniform during school holidays. The amount of money varies depending on the **holiday** but is approximately **£20 - £30** per child per week. This figure is around £100 in total for the **six weeks** holiday.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil Premium funding from the Government is given to a school 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 **last six years**
- Are currently, or have once been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At **Beaconhill Primary School** we get an extra **£1,480** each year 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 have previously used pupil premium money funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions

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- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

We will also continue to use streams of funding to purchase more **iPads** for school and enhance our **outdoor learning environment**. We have big plans for the school yard this academic year and will use school funds towards this.

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- **Income Support**
- Income-based **Jobseeker's Allowance** or income-related **Employment and Support Allowance**
- 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)

Your child might also be eligible if you're in a household with **no recourse to public funds** (NRPF), subject to a maximum income threshold. This is for children of:

- British National (**Overseas**) **passport holders**
- **Spousal** visa, **work** visa, or **student visa** holders
- Families receiving support under **Section 17** of the **Children Act 1989** who are subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in **Reception, Year One** and **Year Two** are entitled to free school meals thanks to a different government funding scheme known as **universal infant free school meals** (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free school meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in **Reception, Year One** and **Year Two** and **is eligible for free school meals** according to the criteria above, **you should still register** because we will receive the **extra pupil premium funding**.

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Does my child need 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** for free school meals **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?

Northumberland County Council operates an **APPLY ONCE** process for **Free School Meals**. During your child's academic life you will only ever have to apply once for Free School Meals while they attend a school in **Northumberland County Council**.

To register, please follow the link below:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Meals>

If you have any questions or specific concerns, please contact **Mr Routledge** or the school **Office Staff**.

We really appreciate your continued support. Many thanks,

Mr Joel Routledge
Headteacher

J Routledge