



17 March 2025

Dear Parent / Carer

We are writing to let you know about government changes to the way that Free School Meals (FSM) are funded.

Currently students are eligible for FSM if their parent is receiving one of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (where the family has an annual income of no more than £16,190 and the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit)
- Working Tax Credit four week run-on (paid when this benefit stops)
- Universal Credit (where the family's household income must be less than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits)

At the moment, any student who receives FSM continues to do so until the end of Year 11.

**However, from 1 April 2025, this protection will end.** This means any child confirmed as eligible for free school meals from 1 April 2025 will lose the FSM funding as soon as they no longer qualify. This will not impact any children who are already confirmed as eligible prior to 1 April.

**For this reason, we would encourage any parents or carers who are considering applying for FSM funding to do so before the deadline.** The process is simple - fill in [this form](#) by 21 March and we will ensure that the information gets processed by 1 April.

If you have any questions about this, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

Mrs Yudy Ali  
Pupil Premium Lead

Mrs Harriet Queralt  
Deputy Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead