



The Federation of Winklebury Infant and Junior Schools

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FYI re: Free School Meals

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Please be advised there has been an update to the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals: As of 1 April 2018, there is now an earnings threshold of £7,400 for parents in receipt of Universal Credit to be eligible for free school meals for their children.

The other criteria remain the same, as below:

The GOV.UK website explains that a child may be eligible for free school meals (FSM) if their parents are in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- * Income Support
- * Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
- * Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- * Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- * The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- * Child Tax Credit, provided the parents are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- * Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax credit
- * Universal Credit - for those applying on or after 1 April 2018, their household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits they get)
- * Children may also get FSM if they receive any of these benefits directly, instead of through a parent.

If your child is in Year groups R-2 they will automatically receive UNIVERSAL free schools meals, however we are still required to check the eligibility to determine if you are entitled to other benefits for example pupil premium funding.

The link to check your eligibility is: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants>

If you become entitled we will contact you to advise. Likewise, if you are eligible at the moment and are no longer entitled due to this change we will let you know.

Many Thanks

Federation Admin Team