**Free School Meals**

Dear families,

We write to explain the two categories of government funded free school meals schemes:

1. Whilst your child is in Key Stage 1 at primary school i.e. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, he/she will automatically receive a free school meal every week day under the Government’s Universal Infants Free School Meal scheme (UIFSM). You do not have to register for this.
2. Children of families who are in receipt of certain benefits, regardless of school year, (see list below) are entitled to receive a free school meal every day under the Government’s Income Related Free School Meals scheme (IRFSM). You **do** need to register for this.

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to please consider whether you are eligible for IRFSM. If you are, then we would be grateful if you would apply (even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2), as every successful application secures additional funding (Pupil Premium) for our school.

You can claim IRFSM for each school age child if you receive one of these benefits:

* Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67
* Income Support
* Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
* Income related Employment 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 have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get Working Tax Credit
* Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Please consider the list above and, if you meet any of the criteria, there is a simple method to check eligibility and apply on the Cheshire East Council website by following this link:

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx>

If you have any questions, or if we can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

With kind regards,



Mrs Melanie Walker

Headteacher