

Dear Parents and Carers

Please take the time to read this letter about registering for free school meals. It could really help the school and the opportunities and support we offer your child.

We want to make sure that we are providing your child with the best education and support we can. Healthy school food has obvious health benefits and can help pupils establish healthy habits for life. Healthy school food can also help to improve pupils' readiness to learn.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for free school meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

Registering for free meals could also raise an extra £1,320 for your child's primary school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities. This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

Please also register, even if your child is currently entitled to Universal Free School Meals (i.e. in Early Years Foundation Stage or Key Stage 1), as the school only receives funding from the government for each child registered for Free School Meals.

### **Does my child have to eat a school meal if I register?**

While it is recommended your child eats a school meal, due to the nutritional value it provides, this is optional – we would ask though that you register regardless of whether or not they want a meal so we can receive this funding.

### **What is the Pupil Premium?**

We will receive £1320 for every child registered for Free School Meals from the Government, providing us with a very important boost to school funds. This will allow us to provide extra support such as extra tuition, learning assistants or after-school clubs. If you register this year then we will receive the Pupil Premium next year.

### **How will this benefit my child?**

Although the school as a whole will benefit from receiving this extra funding, we will use this funding to provide targeted support and provision to individual children who we know will benefit from additional provision.

### **How do I know if I qualify?**

Please look at the leaflet accompanying this letter, which explains who is entitled.

*No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.*

### **How do I apply?**

If you qualify and wish to register you can apply 2 ways:

- By visiting the website [www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/link2ict](http://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/link2ict) and completing the online form. (Please note that in order to reach the correct site, the above web address must be typed in the search bar and not searched for via search engine sites).
- Provide the school office with your NI number and we can apply on your behalf.

Thank you for reading this letter. If you need any confidential advice or have any questions, please speak to the school office or to myself.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs M Sowden-Mehta  
Principal  
Morehall Primary and Martello Primary