

Applying for Free School Meals (Pupil Premium)

Dear Parents and Carers

Did you know Just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school gets extra money? Register now to make sure we don't miss out!

The Government gives money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called 'Pupil Premium'. Pupil Premium this year is worth £1240 per pupil which school can use in a variety of ways - provide extra support in the classroom, pay swimming costs, fund extra resources for children to use in the classroom, pay for educational visits.

How does it work?

1. First, check if you qualify - it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list below.
2. Registering is really quick and easy - if you think you qualify, contact the Free School Meals Team at Northumberland County Council who will help you to register. This information can be found at the bottom of this letter.
3. If you don't want your child to have the school meals they can continue as normal - as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets £1240 extra.

No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming. Please talk to us about registering your child today.

Do you qualify?

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

Income support	Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
Income-related Employment and Support Allowance	Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit	Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.	

You can apply in a number of ways, either online at www.northumberland.gov.uk
Or by calling **01670 623592** - FSM Office Northumberland County Council County Hall Morpeth NE61 2EF. Paper forms can be returned to the school or The FSM office.