

Dear Parents and Carers

Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium

You may be aware that the government is currently allocating additional funding to schools in the form of 'The Pupil Premium'. One of the criteria used to calculate this additional funding is the number of pupils at a school who, in the past, would have been eligible to receive Free School Meals.

As you know all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are now entitled to a free hot meal at lunch times. This has led to fewer families informing school that they are entitled to receive help through the Pupil Premium.

As the school will receive additional funding based on the number of children whose families receive support we would like all families with this entitlement to let us know. This funding is used to support pupil premium children directly.

If you believe that you may be entitled, please speak to our office staff in confidence. You will be asked to complete a form that you may send back to West Sussex County Council yourself or we can scan and email on your behalf.

Rest assured; all discussions will be treated confidentially.

A pupil premium child may also be able to access the following help;

- Wear 2 School voucher to purchase items of school uniform.
- Financial support for Educational Trips.
- Access to additional support for your child's learning and/or well-being.
- Gifted and Talented enrichment courses.

In order to claim Pupil Premium a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit
- The Guaranteed Element of Pension Tax Credit.
- Asylum Seeker under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you think that you are eligible to apply, or if you are not sure, you may want to contact the CBC Customer Services helpdesk on 0300 300 8000. A member of their team will be able to advise you. When calling, it will help if you have your National Insurance number to hand.

If you wish to speak to me personally, I am available on Tuesday and Thursday.

Yours sincerely

Clare Mavin
Assistant Headteacher