



THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
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'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements'

7th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Free School Meals

This letter is a reminder that some children are entitled to Free School Meals. If you think your child might be eligible please fill in the form or contact us at school for further guidance. There is a link to the form at the bottom of this letter. We felt returning after lockdown would be a good opportunity to raise this as we appreciate that some families' circumstances may have changed with possible job losses/redundancies etc.

Chartwells offer a wide selection of hot healthy food which caters for a range of tastes. Children are eligible to receive free school meals (FSM) if their parents are in receipt of any 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.

This entitlement applies to all pupils attending the school, regardless of where they live. For every child that is registered as eligible for Free School Meals, we as a school receive proportionally more funding and are able to provide support and challenge for a wider range of children for both academic and emotional/social aspects of learning if needed. We use this funding to provide additional intervention support, class resources and to support key initiatives to support with English and Maths. There is also some funding available for after-school clubs and uniform. If your child is eligible, we will discuss how we use the funding with you.

There is a form to fill in to apply for Free School Meals. This can be done directly online or on paper and sent to West Sussex. **Alternatively, we can help you by checking the form and sending it for you. If you would like assistance please complete the form and return it to the school office before Friday 11th September.**

If you feel you may be eligible, please complete the paperwork and register. Use the link below to access the form online. http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/learning/schools_ages_4-16/free_school_meals.aspx

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sam Norton

Headteacher

