



4th June 2026

REF: 20260604/MSE/JBI

Dear Parent/Carer,

Free School Meal Update – June 2026

We are writing to inform you about important upcoming changes to Free School Meals (FSM) following updated guidance from the Department for Education.

These changes will come into effect from September 2026 and may affect your child's eligibility. All families will need to apply to receive free school meals, including those that already receive them.

What is changing?

From September 2026, the Government is expanding free school meal eligibility so all children in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals, regardless of income level. This replaces the current system where eligibility is based on a household income threshold of £7,400 per year, meaning more families will now qualify for free school meals.

Families currently receiving Free School Meals

If your child currently receives free school meals, they will continue to do so until the end of this school year.

However, as part of these changes you will also need to reapply to ensure your child continues to receive free school meals.

If your household receives Universal Credit, you are likely to remain eligible under the new system.

If your circumstances have changed and you no longer meet the criteria, your child may no longer qualify.

What you need to do

All families who currently receive free school meals, or think they may be eligible, will need to apply to confirm their eligibility. The Academy manages the free school meal application process directly and will carry out eligibility checks on your behalf. Please scan the QR code below to provide the information we need to complete this for you.





We strongly encourage all families who receive Universal Credit to apply, even if you have not previously qualified.

If you currently receive free school meals but do not apply, your child will no longer receive free school meals from September 2026.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01274 256789.

Yours sincerely,

Mel Saville

Executive Principal