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Dear Parent/Carers,

Entitlement to Free School Meals

Did you know ... just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school gets extra money?

If you are eligible register now to make sure we don't miss out on money to improve your child's educational experience!

You may or may not be aware that one of the streams of funding we receive in school is through the eligibility of our pupils to receive free school meals. This money is then used on a wide variety of things to improve our provision, including extra staffing, after school clubs, teaching materials and extra-curricular activities.

Parents in England do not have to pay for school meals if they receive any of the following:

Qualifying Benefit

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

Come and talk to us if you're not sure. No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

Please can I ask that if you are eligible to receive free school meals, you follow this link and apply. <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/> Pupils do not need to take up the meal everyday (or any day in fact) if they prefer packed lunches, although Chartwells provide healthy and well balanced meals, with a varied menu). This will help the school in its drive to continually improve the educational experience for all of our pupils.

Kind regards,

Deborah Clark

School Business Manager