

Have you thought about applying for Free School Meals for your children?

Why apply for Free School Meals?

The obvious answer is that your child will be able to have a free lunch, but we also have a breakfast club before school where students can have free toast, cereal and a hot drink. All curriculum trips will be paid for and when your child is in Year 10 and 11, they will be able to receive free revision materials.

What is Pupil Premium?

The Pupil Premium is funding provided by the government to the school to help young people from less advantaged homes make as much progress as their peers. It is spent in a different ways including contributions to extra curriculum activities like sport, music and drama and we can make a contribution to school uniform and equipment. The school also uses the funding for different types of support to help close the gap between young people from less advantaged homes and their peers.

How do I claim?

If you are claiming any of the benefits below, your child may qualify for Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium. The benefits include:

- 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 guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit. This is as long as you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual gross income isn't more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' payment (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit

Children who get paid these benefits themselves, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

If you think you qualify, please make an application – this takes minutes online and you will know straightaway if you have been successful. You only need to make one application for all the children in your family provided they are all at Dorset schools. For more information about free school meals and to make an application, please visit:

<https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/free-school-meals> .

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SENCo with responsibility for Pupil Premium