



Garfield Primary
Today's children. tomorrow's future.

9th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Important Information - Free School Meals (FSM)

This academic year only, all London primary school pupils are being offered a free school meal regardless of their financial circumstances due to a Mayor of London initiative.

It is more important than ever that all families who are entitled to free school meals register their entitlement. **This letter explains why and outlines the criteria and procedure for applying.**

- The school will receive some funding according to the number of children/students who are entitled to free school meals and so it is vital that all those families who are eligible claim the support to which they are entitled.
- The government from time to time issue additional funding in the form of food vouchers, as they did in covid times, to those registered for FSM.
- Pupils registered for free school meals are eligible for free holiday clubs in the borough. These clubs also provide free food to your child.

Please be assured that children/students remain anonymous and there is absolutely no embarrassment involved in claiming what is rightly yours.

You are entitled to free school meals where parents are receiving one of the following:-

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of **no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month)**
- 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
- Child Tax Credit only (**with no Working Tax Credit**) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190.

NB: Unfortunately, those receiving Working Tax Credit cannot apply.

If you would like to apply for free school meals, please complete the attached form and return it to Pupil Benefits, P O Box 56, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield EN1 3XQ. Alternatively you can return your form to the School Office and we will forward it to the Local Authority for processing.

If your child is already registered for free school meals, you do not need to take any further action.

Please do not hesitate to contact the School Office if you require further information. We would be happy to help you complete the forms.

Yours sincerely

David Joyce
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Enc.

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