

Free school meals and additional funding for schools

Children whose parents/carers are in receipt of the following may be entitled to income based free school meals, which also entitles the school to receive additional <u>pupil premium</u> funding to support learning:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190).
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

We encourage parents/carers in receipt of the above to apply for this additional support. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at state schools in England automatically receive free school meals (Universal Free School Meals) but please apply if you meet the criteria as the school will receive additional pupil premium funding.

How do I apply?

On-line through the Citizen Portal by visiting https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk

This is a quick and easy way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. For more information, parents and carers can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

School meals

We encourage all children to have a healthy and nutritional meal at lunchtime and a snack during morning break.

Research shows that children who have a nutritionally balanced meal (rather than one that has too much sugar and fat) are better able to concentrate in lessons. All meals prepared at a maintained school must comply with the government <u>Standards for school food in England</u>.

We also encourage children to keep hydrated during the school day and request that they bring a water bottle to school.

