



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all safe and well and have had a peaceful Easter. I am just updating you with current government guidance regarding the provision of free school meals. Firstly I feel it is important to clarify that there are 2 types of free school meals

- 1) All Reception to Year 2 pupils have been accessing **UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS** whilst school has been open normally.
- 2) We have also been providing **BENEFIT RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS** for any Rec to Year 6 pupil.

Current guidance states:

It is right that schools concentrate their effort and resources on those who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals at this time. There is no requirement to continue to provide universal infant free school meals to pupils in Reception, Year 1, or Year 2 who are unable to attend school. Children in those year groups who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals will be supported.

I am very aware that during this difficult time your circumstances may well have changed and this may now mean your child is eligible for benefit related free school meals. So I have listed the criteria below and also encourage you to go to www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals to check if you are eligible.

Current eligibility criteria are if you are in receipt of:

- 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 (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you now believe your child is eligible for benefit related free school meals contact us immediately via admin@knypersley.staffs.sch.uk and we will support you to apply and arrange for a weekly food hamper to be available to you.

I know this is a very difficult time and we have all had to adjust our lives accordingly. However please be reminded we are here to help so do not hesitate to contact us if you feel we may be able to help you in anyway.

Best wishes

Mrs E Goodyear
Headteacher