



St Paul's C of E Junior School

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Dear Parents

Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium

You may be aware that the government allocates additional funding to schools in the form of 'The Pupil Premium'. One of the criteria used to allocate this funding is the number of pupils at a school who are eligible for Free School Meals (FSMs). In common with most schools we believe that a number of our parents may be failing to claim, even though they are entitled to.

We know that some families choose not to claim as they do not wish for their child to be 'singled out'. At St Paul's FSM accounts are automatically credited with a meal per day, and as all children queue and pass through the system in the same way, there is no way of telling which pupils are FSM and which are not.

Parents that claim may also have access to other services such as

- Financial support for educational trips and the purchase of school uniform
- Support for payments for extracurricular clubs and activities
- Access to additional support for your child's learning and/or well-being

Any additional support is dealt with in the strictest confidence and with sensitivity. Such arrangements remain confidential between parents and our finance staff.

In order to claim FSMs a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credits provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190
- The Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit

I would urge any parents who believe that they may be eligible, to make a claim. Application forms are available on our website and copies can be found in the entrance hall and on the Information Board at the doors to the playground. Should you require any help completing the forms, we would be very happy to help.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J M Taylor
Headteacher

