

Holy Family R.C. Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs. A. Tunncliffe



3rd October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Apply for Free School Meals...
it's quick and easy using the online form at:
<https://www.oldham.gov.uk/fsm>

Although Children in KS1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) will receive a free school meal under the Universal Free School Meal scheme, it is still important to register your child for Free School Meals if you think they are eligible. The benefits for your child and our school are huge... **BUT YOU MUST APPLY!**

Look at the benefits:

- A free school meal for your child, which is good for their health and could help their learning.

As we have recently taken over the catering contract at Holy family we will be offering a tasty and exciting menu, including theme days and it will not cost you a penny!

- Savings for you, worth over £460 a year.

The average cost of School meals for 1 child over the course of a school year.

- Extra money for the school through Pupil Premium, worth at least £1345 a year.

This money can be spent on extra resources for your child's classroom or contribute towards school trips.

- School Meal Vouchers worth up to £15 per week.

During Covid closures and school holidays the government have issued school meal vouchers to parents of children who are in receipt of means tested Free School Meals, to be spent at various supermarkets with a value of up to £15 per week for each child. These have been invaluable to families who receive them and offered much needed support during very difficult times.

Children who receive a free school meal due to the Universal Free School Meal scheme **DO NOT** receive these vouchers.

Remember. Just registering your child for Free School Meals means that our school receives the extra money, even if you don't take up the free meal. No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

If you want further information then please talk to Mrs Hartley, Mrs Ordano or email at the address above; everything you say will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Do you qualify?

Your child will be eligible for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- 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 Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit alone whether you receive Working Tax Credits or not

Come and talk to us if you're not sure.

How does it work?

1. Checking whether you qualify and registering is really quick and easy - do it online at:
www.oldham.gov.uk/fsm.
2. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great - they will get the free meal (saving you more than £460 a year) and the school gets extra money to help your child and others in their class.
3. If you don't want your child to have a free school meal they can continue as normal - as long as you qualify, and are registered, the school still gets the extra money.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A. Tunnicliffe
Headteacher