

Holy Trinity CE (VA) Primary School

Universal Free School Meals and Pupil Premium



Explained.

There has been a lot of confusion about Free School Meals (FSM) and the new system brought in by the government, Universal Free School Meals (UFSM).

Universal Free School Meals (UFSM)

From this year, if you have a child/children in Rec, Year 1 or Year 2 they can have school lunches for free. Children choose their meals with everyone else at the start of the day. You do not need to fill in any forms etc. for this. You may like to have a copy of the menu to chat to your child about so that they can make their choices in the morning. If children have allergies or intolerances that we don't know about please let us know.

Eligibility for FSM and the Pupil Premium.

If you are eligible for Free School Meals via an online application you will also gain the Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) which provides £1300 funding to the school. This is used towards support and resources in school, residential trips and also may be used towards out of school activities. **This money will only come into school budgets and is accessed if you apply and are accepted for Free School Meals.** If you have ever been eligible and claimed Free School Meals within the last 6 years, your child is part of the Ever 6 grouping and the school will be funded via that for the £1300. Parents of children in Rec – Year 2 should also claim this grant if eligible as there are additional benefits your child may be entitled to. Children in Years 3 – 6 will gain a free school lunch as well as the other benefits. You can apply for Free School Meals through the Herts website (see criteria below). Please speak to the office staff if you any queries with this.

Eligibility for FSM Criteria.

Year 3 onwards - your child may qualify for a free meal if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, (providing you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

