

Primrose Hill Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

From September, your child will no longer be entitled to Universal Free School Meals. Please see information below on how apply for Free School Meals:

As you know, school funding is extremely important and one way we can maximise our budget is to ensure we have accurate records of those children who are eligible for Free School Meals.

Please be aware that **Universal Free School Meals** is different to **Free School Meals Eligibility**. Therefore, please see below for eligibility criteria then use the link or contact details to apply.

Free School Meal Eligibility (FSM):

Some families may be eligible for a Free School Meal if you are what the government terms, 'on a low income'. Children do not have to take our meals if they do not want to but, if they are on the Free School Meals register, the school receives extra money for that child which has to be spent only on the education of free school meals eligible children. This extra money is called the Pupil Premium and its purpose is to ensure that children from low income families are not at a financial disadvantage during their education as a result of home circumstances.

Universal Free School Meal (USFM):

Children in Reception Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a USFM which is funded by the Government. This means that all infant age children do not have to pay for a lunch provided by the school. By receiving free school meals you can save up to £400 a year and ensure your child is eating a healthy, balanced meal every day.

In order to receive the Pupil Premium funding, a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (but no Working Tax Credit is being received by the claimant or his/her partner and the combined annual income as assessed by HMIR in a TC602 form is not above £16,190)
- The Guaranteed Element of Pension Tax Credit
- Asylum Seeker under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

It is therefore, extremely important that we know of your free school eligibility. If you have any questions about the Universal Free School Meal and Free School Meal Eligibility, please see the

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office staff. **Please note that your child will no longer be eligible for UFSM and we will start charging you for lunches** so please apply for FSM and see if you are eligible.

You are more than welcome to bring your child in with a healthy packed lunch and you will not be charged, however you must inform the school to avoid any unnecessary charges. Bear in mind that we are a nut-free school when sending your child in with a packed lunch.

Parents who are eligible for Free School Meal (FSM) should complete a form and submit it to the 'Benefits for FSM department in Camden. Alternatively, you can apply online at <https://contact.camden.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals/>. If you do not have access to the internet and cannot complete an online application, please contact the school office and we will give you a form.

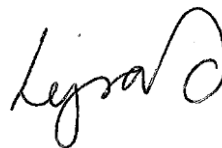
Contacting FSM

If parents wish to contact the FSM department office, their number is 0207 974 5771 and their email is benefitsFSM@camden.gov.uk.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Head Teacher



Attendance & Admissions Officer

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