

Welsh Government has introduced a PDG Access Grant. The purpose of which is to provide grant assistance to families on low incomes for the purchase of:

- School uniform including coats and shoes;
- School sports kit including footwear;
- Uniform for enrichment activities, including but not limited to, scouts; guides; cadets; martial arts; sports; performing arts or dance;
- Equipment e.g. school bags and stationery;
- Specialist equipment where new curriculum activities begin such as design and technology; and
- Equipment for out of school hour's trips such as outdoor learning e.g. waterproofs.
- Laptops or tablets

We advise families to contact their child's school/setting to discuss loaning equipment before purchasing.

**Parents need to keep receipts for audit purposes.**

### **Who is eligible?**

For **academic year 2021/2022**, funding is available to pupils who are eligible for free school meals entering:

- Entering **Reception** in September 2021 at a rate of £125
- Entering **Year 1** in September 2021 at a rate of £125
- Entering **Year 3** in September 2021 at a rate of £125
- Entering **Year 5** in September 2021 at a rate of £125
- Entering **Year 7** in September 2021 at a rate of £200
- Entering **Year 8** in September 2021 at a rate of £125
- Entering **Year 9** in September 2021 at a rate of £125
- Entering **Year 10** in September 2021 at a rate of £125
- Entering **Year 11** in September 2021 at a rate of £125
- For learners in a special school, special needs resource base or pupil referral unit and are aged 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 or 15
- Funding for looked-after children is available in every school year. Please apply to Local Authority where child attends school.

**Only one claim per school year is permitted.**

**Pupils who receive Free School Meals due to transitional protection arrangements do not qualify for this funding.**

Children of families in receipt of the following are eligible to receive Free School Meals:-

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee 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
- to 31 March 2019, Universal Credit (1)
- from 1 April 2019, Universal Credit - provided your household has an annualised net earned income (2) of no more than **£7,400** (as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

*(1) This was done as a temporary measure, pending the development of new eligibility criteria.*

*(2) Net earned income is defined as household income after taxes and deductions. It does not include income from Universal Credit or other benefits.*

**How to apply?**

Application forms will be available from **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021**.

Any queries please contact the Schools and Family Support Team on 01639 763515 or email: [fsm@npt.gov.uk](mailto:fsm@npt.gov.uk).