

Dear Parents/Guardians

Entitlement to Free School Meals

(Please Note: If you have already registered your child(ren) for Free School Meals you do not need to apply again!)

You may be aware that the government now allocates money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. The grant that schools receive allows a range of measures to be put in place aimed at raising attainment, increasing opportunities and supporting all learners.

The grant is linked to the number of pupils registered as **qualifying** for free school meals. Even if your child does not wish to take up the offer of free school meals we would ask that you consider registering in order to enable us to receive the funding to which the school is entitled. The following information may help you:

- If your child is eligible for free school meals, you could save up to £350 a year by taking up this opportunity.
- Your child does not have to have the school meals if they do not wish to do so. As long as you qualify and are registered, the school will still receive due monies.
- Registration is entirely confidential - other pupils are not made aware of which pupils are in receipt of free school meals.
- Registration does not affect any of the benefits which you may be claiming.
- The registration process is quick and easy.

Please complete the application online which is directed straight to the Free School Meals Team in the Civic Centre who will then notify the school of your entitlement. Website address is: www.swansea.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals. Please apply as soon as possible as the deadline for the funding is fast approaching. With this money we could significantly improve the resources available to learners at our school.

What to do next:

1. First, check if you qualify – free school meals are **not** only available to your child(ren) if you are unemployed. Please check the list overleaf.
2. Decide with your child if you would like them to take up the free, healthy school lunches to which they are entitled.
3. If your child would like to receive the school lunches this will be arranged. If not, the school will still receive the funding. With increased pressure on school budgets, this funding makes a big difference to all schools. If you are eligible, please consider registering your child today.

Thank you in anticipation of your help and support.

Do you qualify?

You can register your child(ren) for Free School Meals if you receive 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 you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit** and you 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