

Dear Parents and Carers

Please take a moment to read this very important message – it could have a significant impact on the education of your child during their primary school years. If you have any queries, please talk to Lorraine Woollven.

Free school meals and Pupil Premium Funding

QUALIFYING BENEFITS FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Children attending school whose parents or carers receive any of these benefits are entitled to 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
- the guaranteed 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
- Universal Credit with annual Take Home Pay/Net Earnings below £7,400 (which equals £616.67 per month) benefits not included

APPLYING FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

You can apply online to get an instant result. If you are eligible, your entitlement will begin on the day you apply.

If you are eligible, you will be able to download an eligibility letter. If you are applying during the school holidays, the school will automatically be informed. If you are applying during term time, you'll need to show the school the letter in order to get your free meals. Keep a copy of the letter in case the school asks to see it again.

Access the website below (you will need your National Insurance Number).

If your child is starting school in September, you should apply during the summer holidays as North Somerset Council cannot deal with your application earlier. Applying too early could result in your application being removed. If you are moving into North Somerset from another area you will need to apply - www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Free school meals entitlement is for the child and not the family. Therefore, you will need to apply for each child when they start school.

If your child is in Reception class or Years 1 and 2 they will receive Universal Free School Meals but if you are claiming benefits you must still apply for free school meals.

This is to:

- make you are eligible for other financial assistance for items such as school trips
- enable the school to receive pupil premium funding - Pupil Premium Funding is paid to the school to enhance the education of eligible pupils and may be used for additional resources, tuition or other benefits such as subsidised school trips.



Website: www.churchillprimaryschool.co.uk
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With kind hearts and determined minds, we inspire each other to be the best we can be.