

Newburgh CE Primary School

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16th July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Free School Meal Eligibility - Changes

From the 1st September, the eligibility for Free School Meals is changing. There is now going to be two categories:

- **Targeted FSM** for children from households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earning of £7, 400 or less. For these families children are entitled to free school meals and additional funding (sent to school) to support learning, resources & enrichment opportunities.
- **Expanded FSM** for children from households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of more than £7, 400. For these families, children are entitled to free school meals.

What this means for you

- If your household income is lower, your child may now be entitled to free school meals at school
- Schools receive additional funding (known as Pupil Premium) for every eligible child, which is used to support learning, resources and enrichment opportunities
- Even if your child prefers a packed lunch, applying can still bring valuable benefits to both your child and the school

What you need to do

- If you think you may now be eligible, we strongly encourage you to submit an application before the start of the academic year.
- Applications are quick, confidential and securely processed
- If your child is already receiving Free School Meals, you do not need to reapply



Why it's important to apply

- Ensures your child receives all the support they are entitled to
- Helps the school access additional funding to support pupils
- May provide access to further support, such as help with trips or activities

We encourage all families to take a few minutes to check their eligibility – this additional support can make a real difference.

Please follow the following link to make an application and find out if you could be eligible for additional support:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals/>

Kind regards



Rebecca Fowler
Headteacher

