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Dear Parents and Carers,

**Did you know..... Just registering for free school meals means that the school gets extra money?**

The government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called 'Pupil Premium'.

With this money we could continue to provide additional support programmes for the children. If you are registered for Free School Meals you could also get help with the costs of school trips.

Please register as soon as possible to make sure your child and others in their class do not miss out.

**How does it work?**

1. First, check if you qualify - it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list below.
2. Registering is really quick and easy - if you think you qualify, complete the application form or contact the local authority on 01384 814988 who will help you to register. Alternatively, go to <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/>
3. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime, great - they will get the free meal and the school will benefit allowing us to spend money on extra resources and intervention.  
(N.B all of KS1 receive universal free school meals until further notice)
4. If you don't want your child to have the school meals they can continue as normal - as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets the extra funding and you receive help with school trips.

**Do you qualify?**

You can register your child for free school meals if you get 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 they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and 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

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you may be claiming.

Please do not hesitate to talk to us about registering your child today.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Angela Lewis  
Headteacher