

24th April 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals eligibility

I hope you are all keeping well through these difficult times and hope the sunshine is lifting your spirits. We have received information in schools from the government regarding free school meal eligibility and I wanted to share this with you.

At this time, many families have been put on furlough or have had their hours of work cut and unfortunately may have lost their jobs. Therefore, if your financial situation has changed and you meet the governments qualifying criteria for free school meal eligibility, your child will be able to receive a free school meal for the duration of their time in school i.e. until the end of year six (Primary) or until the end of year 11 (Secondary). It is important to note for parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that even though your child receives a Universal Free School Meal you **MUST** still register your entitlement in order for your child to be eligible when they enter into Juniors (Y3 - Y6). The school will also receive some additional funding to purchase additional resources to benefit the children when they are in school.

Please visit www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals to register your entitlement.

A child may be able to get a free school meal if their parent(s) receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part V1 of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child tax Credit (provided you are 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 - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If the above criteria applies to you, please email school at s.couling@hope.wigan.sch.uk with your full name/s, date of birth and National Insurance numbers and this will enable the Local Authority to complete a confidential check to ascertain eligibility which will allow school to apply for Pupil Premium Funding.

As always we are here to support the children in all aspects of their learning and we will arrange to meet if you or we have any concerns. We welcome any constructive feedback that you have.

Yours Sincerely

Sue Lucas

