



Chesterton CE Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr Iain Horner

30th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will already be aware, if your child is in Reception or KS1, they are entitled to a lunch provided by the school as part of the Government's Universal Infant Free School Meals programme. This is not the same as entitlement to Free School Meals.

- Did you know that if you are eligible and your child is registered for Free School Meals, the school receives extra money from the Government? This money can be spent to support your child in a number of different ways.
- If you serve in the regular British Armed Forces, or your child has previously been Looked After, the school could also receive extra money from the Government.

Unfortunately, many families who are eligible do not register and make a claim. This can be for many reasons: some parents prefer to pack their child a lunch, some parents are not aware that they are eligible and some parents do not want to be identified as claiming.

Even if you do not claim the free meals themselves, Chesterton School will still receive the funding for your child so it is still of great benefit if you register. Any information shared with us will be treated confidentially.

Please check the list below and (if you think you are eligible), return the permission slip on the next page to the school office by **Friday 3rd October**. The school will then be able to check your entitlement electronically through a Government website.

You can receive Free School Meals for your child if you or your partner or your child receives one of the following:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- 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 four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Or, if your child

- Is currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales
- Has left care in England or Wales through an adoption order, a special guardianship order, or a child arrangements order

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they will remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling they are in on 31st March 2026.

Yours, Mr I Horner - Headteacher

Entitlement to Free School Meals

I wish to confirm that as parent/guardian of:

Name: Class:

☐ I believe that my son or daughter is entitled to Free School Meals. (please complete remainder of slip)

1. I am a member of the British or American Armed Forces (tick if appropriate)

2. I/my partner receives one of the allowances listed (tick if appropriate)

Parent's First Name	Parent's Surname	Date of Birth	National Insurance Number

If you are entitled to Free School Meals, the school can provide a lunch for your child/children. Please indicate below, if you are interested in receiving this benefit.

☐ I am interested in my child/children receiving a Free School Meal.

☐ I am NOT interested in my child receiving a Free School Meal and I will continue to provide my child with their own lunch.

NAME OF PARENT:

Signed:

Please return to the school office by Friday 3rd October