

September 2025

Dear parents/carers,

Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility and help with the cost of school items if you are not eligible for FSM

If you receive some of the benefits below you may be eligible to claim free school meals for your child. If you are eligible and your child does not currently receive free school meals, please do apply. This not only provides your child with a free school meal each day but brings additional funding into the school that can support your child in making progress. The best place to apply is online here <https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>

All of the information on how to do this can be found on the free school meal (FSM) section of the Wiltshire Council website or we can help point you in the right direction at school.

Typically, your child can receive Free School Meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Job Seeker's Allowance (income-based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income-related)
- support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - providing you are NOT entitled to Working Tax Credit and your family's annual income (as assessed by HMRC) is not more than £16,190 (as at 6 April 2012)
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment you may receive for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- 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)

For more details about Free School Meals, please visit the Free School Meals section of the Wiltshire Council website using this link - <https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>

If you do not receive the benefits above but are still struggling, please do let us know by contacting the school office on 01793 852250 or emailing kbeard@njs.ascendlearningtrust.org.uk. It doesn't matter about the relative amount of money that you earn, there is help available as follows:

School uniform – we usually have pre loved uniform in a variety of sizes.

Food Bank Vouchers – we can point you in the direction of organisations that can offer help and support.

If you have any questions about any of the above, just let us know

With Warmth

Karen Beard

Karen Beard
Office Manager