

11th March 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

As you may be aware, all students in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 (Years R – 2) are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal. This is a meal that is provided by the Government for any child within these year groups.

However, we know that more children, throughout all of our school years, will be entitled to the Pupil Premium grant funding, which is sometimes called “Free School Meals”

Pupil Premium is different from Universal Free School Meals.

If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium there is funding available for more support throughout their school life for activities such as

- Extra-Curricular Clubs
- Trips
- Intervention and activities within school

These can be funded or partly funded by school using money from the Pupil Premium grant we receive.

In addition to this, you may also be eligible for help from the Local Authority during school holidays.

Could you be eligible for Free School Meals and the other opportunities that this funding enables?

Your child may be able to get income based free school meals and Pupil Premium funding if you receive any of the following

- 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)



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FLOURISHING FUTURES

- 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)

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

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

For more information and to apply please visit [Free school meals - Torbay Council](#)

What will happen after you have submitted your claim?

1. Torbay Council will check your claim.
2. The LA will confirm eligibility status as soon as all relevant checks have been made.

If you still believe you are entitled, please call [01803 208244](tel:01803208244) for advice. The council may need you to send in documentary evidence of a qualifying benefit in this circumstance.

Thank you for your support

Steve Bone

Head Teacher