

Cherry Tree Primary School and Nursery

Caring, Thriving, Preparing, Succeeding

Head of School: Mr M Davie

Executive Headteacher: Mrs K Hamilton

Deputy Headteacher: Miss L Barlow

Dear Families,

Re: Free School Meals for children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6)

From Years 3-6 (Key Stage 2), free school meal entitlement has to be applied for and is based upon the household being in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income - based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income - related Employment and Support Allowance
- 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)
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit.
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act, 1999
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit, with a household income of less than £7,400 per year (after tax and not including any benefits that you receive).

If the above criteria applies to your household please bring evidence of the above benefits into the school office and we will be able to check your eligibility. Please note: you no longer need to apply through Essex County Council.

If your child is entitled to free school meals this will remain the case until 31st March, 2025.

We strongly encourage you to apply to ensure your child receives a healthy school lunch. In addition, Cherry Tree Primary School will receive £1,515 for every child in receipt of Free School Meals. This funding buys valuable resources for your children.

Please note: If your Key Stage 2 child is NOT in receipt of Free School Meal we will be unable to offer them a free school lunch and it will either have to be paid for via School Money or a home packed lunch provided.

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