

# Free School Meals

## Service update

Summer Term Newsletter for Schools and Academies

Summer  
Term  
Edition

### Included:

- Work that will continue over the summer holiday period
- Autumn 2020 report dates
- Online application process
- Latest free school meal government information
- Temporary extension to free school meal eligibility
- Students that receive benefits directly
- Latest FSM application form and FSM enquiry form
- FSM team contact details for schools



Walsall Council

## Work that will continue during the summer holiday period

- We will be registering new eligible free school meal children who will be starting reception school in September
- We have been registering children that will be moving onto their next school in September. These children will appear on your weekly reports
- Children added over the summer holiday will appear on your first report at the start of term September 2020
- New eligible parents will be identified and contacted
- Automatic awarding of eligible children who have siblings already registered with us
- All children who have a FSM transitional protection will retain their eligibility regardless of changes to circumstances and will automatically transfer onto their new school
- We will automatically move all currently registered children on to their next school without the need for any further information from their parents
- All children that have been registered to start at their new school in September will retain their eligibility until they finish that phase of education

(The above applies to schools within the Walsall Borough, administered by Walsall Council and where we have agreement.)

## Reports dates for the start of the Autumn term

### **1 September 2020 –**

report showing children added on over the summer holiday

### **2 September 2020 –**

report showing all eligible children

## Online application process available

Parents can apply online if they want to and we welcome schools and academies adding the web-link to their own parent information web pages at:

**[https://go.walsall.gov.uk/free\\_school\\_meals](https://go.walsall.gov.uk/free_school_meals)**

If you prefer to link directly to the FSM registration form rather than our webpage, please visit:

**<https://go.walsall.gov.uk/forms/Application-for-Free-School-Meals>**

## Government temporary extension to free school meal eligibility

Coronavirus (COVID-19) temporary extension of free school meals eligibility for children of groups who have no recourse to public funds. Families in these groups cannot apply online and should telephone: **0300 555 2855**

More detailed information about this temporary extension is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/guidance-for-the-temporary-extension-of-free-school-meals-eligibility-to-nrpf-groups>

## For latest free school meal government information please follow link below:

Providing free school meals during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak (last updated 28 May 2020)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools>

## Students that receive benefits directly

Students who get paid any of the benefits listed below directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals:

- 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 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)



## Latest FSM application form and FSM enquiry form

- A copy of our latest FSM application form and FSM enquiry form is enclosed (where possible please advise to apply online)
- For any queries regarding children please enter the details onto our password protected FSM enquiry form
- For FSM enquiries where you have the 6 digit pin number from a FSM report, we do not require the parent details or address of the child
- Please keep us up-to-date with any children that are listed at your school but do not attend or any child that joins your school with a FSM transitional protection that does not appear on your report

## Until further notice schools can contact us on any of the mobile numbers listed below -

Here to help, telephone mobile numbers to speak to the FSM Team:



**07788 328533**

**07778 459482**

**07788 380540**

**07788 328520**

**07788 328493**



Secure email address for all FSM password protected enquiry forms:  
**[FreeSchoolMeals@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:FreeSchoolMeals@walsall.gov.uk)**