



Types of Free School Meals

There are two types of free school meals available to children attending Ralph Butterfield Primary School (a government-maintained school).

Universal Infant

All children in the first three years of primary school, and attending full-time, are automatically entitled to take up a free school meal. These school meals are called 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' and are offered to all children who are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2.

Free School Meals

Circumstances can change for anyone, as the enormous impact of events in most recent years continues to prove. Some families can suddenly find themselves trying to cope with a new financial strain and pressure, perhaps as a result of a stressful new situation: separation, loss of a job, decreased working hours etc. If your household income is low or has recently decreased, your child may well qualify for Free School Meals.

You can apply for free school meals for any child who attends our school (**all year groups**) if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit combined with **both** a household income below £16,190 per annum **and** not in receipt of any Working Tax Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit, with annual household earnings of less than £7,400

If you feel you may meet the criteria above, please [click here to apply online](#)

What if my child is already entitled to Universal Infant meals, but I think I meet the above criteria?

Please do still apply. A child's eligibility for free school meals also brings additional support, by way of the school receiving pupil premium (see below).

Pupil Premium

Pupil Premium is additional funding, paid to the school ([click here](#)). As a school, we are able to use Pupil Premium funding to support children to help develop their academic progress, their self-esteem or their social and emotional skills. Pupil Premium also enables us to help with items such as providing school uniform, milk at morning break and attendance at after school clubs.