



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Mill Street, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 2TH
Telephone: 01384 818435 - Fax 01384 818436
Website: www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk



Archdiocese of Birmingham

Principal: Ms O' Beirne

'Providing a Christ centred setting whereby everyone can live out the messages of Jesus with love, understanding and care'

Dear Parent/Carer,

IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

The Government provides extra money to schools to help children from lower incomes to do their very best. This funding is called the Pupil Premium and if your child is registered, school gets an extra £1320 which is used to enrich your child's education.

Although Foundation and KS1 pupils receive Universal Free School Meals, it is important that you apply for Free School meals if your family circumstances fit the following criteria.

If you get any of the following support payments your child may be entitled to receive free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State 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

Please note:

- If your child is in Reception, years one or two, you will automatically be entitled for free meals under the new 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' criteria. However if you do meet the criteria listed above then you will need to submit an on-line claim in order for your child's school to receive Pupil Premium funding.

If you are unsure about your eligibility for Free School Meals, please call 01384 814988. There will be someone on hand to answer any of your queries. In order for your child to benefit from this extra funding it is important that children are on the register for Free School Meals as **soon as possible** to release the school funding.

REGISTERING FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you wish to apply for Free School Meals, please go to:

www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Team by:

Visiting – Dudley Council Plus, Castle Street, Dudley between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday, 9am and 12 noon Saturday

Email – freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk

Telephone -01384 814988