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Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for 'Free School Meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'Pupil Premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is Pupil Premium funding?

Pupil Premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for Free School Meals;
- Have been registered for Free School Meals at any point in the past 6 years;
- Are, or have been, in care;
- Have parents in the armed forces.

At Thorpe Acre Infant School, we receive extra funding for every pupil who is registered for Free School Meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we could use Pupil Premium funding for:

- Assisting parents in purchasing certain school uniform items;
- Educational provision/resources;
- Academic interventions;
- Subsidised school trips and residential;

Is my child eligible for Free School Meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- 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)

Currently, all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at Thorpe Acre Infant School are entitled to a Free School Meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with Free Schools Meals and the Pupil Premium.

Does my child have to eat the Free School Meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for Free School Meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the local authority on 0116 3055000 or through this link:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals>

If you have more than one child at school, please do not assume they are automatically added. You will need to register each child individually.

More information

For more information about Pupil Premium go to our website, which contains details of how the Pupil Premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

If you have any questions or specific concerns, please contact Mrs Pullen, on 01509 212021

Yours sincerely

J Beaumont

Ms J Beaumont
Headteacher

