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Dear Parents/Carers,

A letter will go up on the website today regarding eligibility for Free School Meals.

We are encouraging all parents to register for free school meals even if you believe you are not eligible.

There are a number of points in the qualifying criteria which parents may not be aware of but could benefit Colvestone as it means we may receive additional funding.

Please check the letter on the website and register your child and family.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Miss Caroline King

Executive Headteacher

Caroline A

Free School Meals Eligibility



Eligibility for Free School Meals

Whether your child is at primary school and receives a free meal, eats lunch at home, or you are currently working, we ask that parents/carers of all primary-aged children in Hackney register for free school meals, even if you do not believe you are currently eligible.

If a family receives one of the qualifying benefits for free school meals after we receive the application, we will automatically update our records and their school will receive additional funding. Depending on the child's age, this can amount to up to £1,320.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

All children starting school in the reception class, Year 1, or Year 2 will get a free meal at school regardless of income. This includes academies, free schools, pupil referral units and alternative provision as well as maintained schools. However, even if your child is in one of these year groups we still need you to apply for free meals if you are receiving benefits. This will allow your school to claim important extra funding that will benefit your child.

Schools get extra funding, known as the 'Pupil Premium', for every child registered as eligible for a free school meal if their parents are receiving benefits. Schools use this money for activities such as art therapy, booster classes, educational trips, and after school clubs.

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

Parents of children attending school nursery, junior classes in Years 3 to 6, or at secondary school in Hackney will have to pay for school meals, unless they are receiving benefits. To qualify, your child must be in school and you must be receiving one of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- NASS support
- Guarantee element of State Pension
- 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 for the four weeks after employment ends
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400

To apply for free school meals

Click Here