



23rd January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

For each child who is eligible for **Free School Meals* (FSM)**, the school they attend will receive a sum of money, which enables them to support pupils in various ways. This funding is known as Pupil Premium.

****Free School Meals (FSM) is not the same as Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM), which all children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are eligible for, and which has no effect on additional funding for the children.***

Registering for **FSM*** does not mean your child has to take the meal (they can still have a lunch from home if you prefer) but being eligible entitles your child to Pupil Premium Funding for 6 years from registration, even if after a period of time you are no longer actually entitled to FSM. The school would receive additional funding from the Government which is then used to subsidise or pay for various activities, trips, music lessons etc., Your child would also be entitled to free school milk for the whole of the 6 year period.

For example: at Delapre Primary School we provide all children in Key Stage 2 with a healthy snack every morning. This costs the parents £5 per half term. **If a child is eligible for FSM* this amount is paid for by the school from Pupil Premium funding. In addition, any day trips the children have during the school year are also paid for by the school.** Our Year 5 and 6 pupils go on a week-long residential trip to Norfolk every other year (there is a trip this year, 2018). This would normally cost £338 but, if your child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, you would only have to pay £169 - half the cost - and the school would pay the remainder. There are many other opportunities that arise during the school year which could benefit your child.

I cannot stress enough the benefit of registering for FSM - to you and your child. Applying is really easy. Please collect a form from the School Office or ask a member of staff in the office for more information. Alternatively, you can register on line at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

We are sending this letter to all parents for two reasons. First, although all Reception/KS1 children are eligible to receive a free meal as part of the government's Universal Infant FSM Programme, this is not the same as FSM and **unless eligible families apply, the school will not get the Pupil Premium funding.**

Secondly, Pupil Premium funding is **not** automatically applied to younger siblings if you have an older child in school who is eligible. If you have a younger child joining the school and you are still eligible for FSM you must submit a new application. **An application has to be made separately for each child.**



2)

You may be eligible for **Free School Meals (FSM)**, and therefore Pupil Premium funding, if you are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Jobseeker's Allowance (Income Based)
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Child Tax Credit (but **not** Working Tax Credit) and your annual gross income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) is not more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit Run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guaranteed Element of Pension Credit

Please note: anyone receiving WORKING TAX CREDIT, regardless of income, will not qualify for FSM

Please register if you are eligible; it can really make a difference and here at Delapre Primary School we only want to help and support our families. It is definitely worth a check!

This letter contains a lot of information, so if you are in any way unsure about anything, please do not hesitate to telephone the School Office on 01604 761456 or call in.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



D Leivers (Mrs)
Assistant Headteacher