



September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

For each child who is eligible for **Free School Meals* (FSM)**, the school receives valuable additional funding, 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 can then be used to subsidise or pay for various activities, trips, music lessons etc., for eligible pupils. Your child would also be entitled to school snacks 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.** 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.

You can register online at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals This is the easiest and quickest option.

If this is not possible, please contact the School Office on 01604 761456, or email enquiries@delapre.northants.sch.uk to request a form to be sent home with your child. Once the form is completed, send it back into school in an envelope, addressed to 'The School Office' and we will process it for you.

We are sending this letter to all parents for two reasons:

First, although all Reception/KS 1 children are eligible to receive a free meal as part of the government's Universal Infant Free School Meal Programme, this is not the same as FSM and **unless eligible families apply, the school will not get the Pupil Premium funding.**



2)

Secondly, Pupil Premium funding is **not** automatically applied to younger siblings, even 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.**

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

Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

*Working Tax Credit **Run-on** – (paid for the four weeks **after** you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Universal Credit

Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The Guarantee Element of Pension Credit

Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400

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 of anything, please do not hesitate to telephone the School Office on 01604 761456, or email us at enquiries@delapre.northants.sch.uk

We will do all we can to help you through this process.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



D Leivers (Mrs)
Assistant Headteacher