RE: Free School Meals

Leeds West Academy
LEADING IN LEARNING

28th November 2018

Dear Parent*

ARE YOU MISSING OUT ON FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

We want to ensure that we are providing your child with the best education and support possible. A healthy meal has obvious health benefits and can help students establish healthy habits for life and can also improve pupils' readiness to learn.

Your child could be entitled to Free School Meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit and you & your partners annual net earned income is £7,400 or less.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and you and your partners annual taxable income is £16,190 or less.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE ELIGIBILITY CHECK ON THE NEXT PAGE.

However if your or your partner also receive any Working Tax Credit as well, you won't qualify for Free School Meals, so please wait until this benefit has stopped before you apply.

By making a claim for free meals you could also raise an extra **£900** for our school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities. This additional money is called **Pupil Premium** and is available from central government for every child who has a Free School Meals award in place.

If you are currently claiming for support with your rent or Council Tax, Leeds City Council will already hold your details and your children will automatically be considered for Free School Meals without you having to fill in any further benefit application forms. This includes children who are changing schools.

If you do not have a current claim, we encourage you to apply for Free School Meals. Please complete the below form or visit the Council's website and follow this link:
https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/council-tax-and-benefits/free-school-meals
Alternatively, if you would like help to complete the form, please drop in to Visitors Reception.

Principal: **Christian Wilcocks**
Executive Principal: **Andrew Whitaker**
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T: 0113 2295454 **F:** 0113 257 2418
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WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES

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On the **1st April 2018** the Transitional Protection rules came into effect which states that whilst Universal Credit is being rolled out to families in Leeds, once your child has a Free School Meals award in place, they will now keep it right through until they leave Leeds West Academy. This will apply even if your earnings rise above the new threshold or if you stop being entitled to Universal Credit.

Thank you for reading this letter and remember, by completing an application form you are helping to make sure your child's school is as well funded as possible.

Yours faithfully

Christian Wilcocks
Principal

* The term 'parent' includes any person or body with parental responsibility such as a foster parent, carer, guardian or local authority.

Reply Slip: Check for Eligibility - Free School Meals

By completing this form you give consent for us to send your details to Leeds City Council for checking your Child's free school meal eligibility.

Please complete the below form and return to the Main Academy Reception.

Child's Forename	**Child's Surname**	**Date of Birth**	**Date they started attending Leeds West Academy.**
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Parent's Forename	**Parent's Surname**	**Parent Date of Birth**	**National Insurance Number/NASS Ref**	**Current Address and Postcode**
1.				
2.				

Parent* name:……Signed:……...……Date:……