



8th June 2023.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, the school will 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

At Preston C of E Primary School, we receive an extra £1,455 (these figures are for the 2023/24 financial year for every eligible 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've previously used pupil premium funding for

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions
- Pastoral Support for Children
- Raising attainment and accelerating progress for disadvantaged pupils
- 1:1 Tuition
- Family Learning
- Digital technologies
- External day visits and performances for pupils

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 - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Preston Primary Academy Trust. Registered address: The Toose, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 3SN.
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Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You should not confuse UIFSM with free school meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we will receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals do not 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?

It is easy to register – simply complete a form online [Free school meals \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/free-school-meals/) , or ask for a form at the school office.

More information

For more information about pupil premium, please go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent during the previous and current academic year or speak to us in school.

With best wishes

S Hann

Mrs S Hann
Deputy Headteacher.