

# FREE SCHOOL MEALS



School dinners provide a healthy, nutritious and tasty meal. Research has shown that a school dinner can improve concentration levels. Menus are changed often and can be viewed on the Bracknell Forest website.

By applying for free school meals your child could benefit from a school dinner whilst saving you money. But it's not just a free meal. When you register for free school meals and are eligible, your child's school will receive valuable additional funding from the Government, called Pupil Premium.

## Universal Infant Free School Meals

In September 2014, the Government introduced Universal Infant Free School Meals. This means that all children in reception, year one and year two are eligible to receive a free school meal. Parents do not need to do anything to qualify for these meals, however if you apply for the pupil premium, your child's school will still benefit from the much needed addition Government funding. Also when your child reaches year 3, you will not need to reapply, we will automatically check your eligibility to see if your child can continue receiving a free school meal.

## How this additional Government funding is used by schools

This funding will be invested in your child at school. All schools will use their funding differently, for example some schools offer discounted uniform or help with school trips for those children who raise the pupil premium for their school. If you would like to know how your child's school using this funding, please contact them.

## Who is eligible to claim Free School Meals or Pupil Premium?

All children in reception, year one and year two are automatically entitled to a free meal under the Governments Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme. However, those parents of children in these years that are in receipt of one of the following benefits may be eligible to raise pupil premium for their child's school.

Parents with children in year 3 upwards, in receipt of one of the following benefits, may be eligible to claim a Free School Meal for their child as well as the additional pupil premium for their child's school.

- Income Support
- Income-related Employment & Support Allowance
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit provided they have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- 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

If you are entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment stops, or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week, your child would be eligible for free school meals for this four week period only.

## How to apply

If you would like to apply for Free School Meals or Pupil Premium, please either:

- Complete the form overleaf and return it to your child's schools, or School Admissions, Children Young People and Learning, Bracknell Forest Council, FREEPOST SCE15737, Bracknell, RG12 1BR – *no stamp required*
- Apply online: [www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)
- Call 01344 352000

# FREE SCHOOL MEAL / PUPIL PREMIUM APPLICATION FORM



Please complete ALL sections of this form and return to School Admissions\* or your child's school. Alternatively you can apply online at: [www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

## CHILD(REN)S DETAILS

First Name	Surname	Date of Birth	School Attending

## 1<sup>st</sup> PARENT/CARER DETAILS (if in receipt of one of the benefits below)

First Name											
Surname											
Date of Birth											
National Insurance Number e.g AA 12 34 56 A	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>										
Relationship to child											
Do you live with the child?											
**Signature											

## 2<sup>nd</sup> PARENT/CARER DETAILS (if in receipt of one of the benefits below)

First Name											
Surname											
Date of Birth											
National Insurance Number e.g AA 12 34 56 A	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>										
Relationship to child											
Do you live with the child?											
**Signature											

## BENEFIT DETAILS

Please tick all that apply

- Income Support,  Income-based job seekers allowance,
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)
- Income-related Employment & Support Allowance,  Guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit) and a gross joint income of no more than £16,190

**Please note: Contribution related Employment & Support Allowance and Contribution based Job Seekers Allowance or if you are in receipt of Working Tax Credit, you do not qualify.**

\*\* I agree that you will use the information that I have provided to process my claim for free school meals / pupil premium and will contact other sources as allowed by law to verify my initial and ongoing entitlement. I also agree this information can be shared with other departments within Bracknell Forest Council where necessary.

\*School Admissions, Children Young People and Learning, Bracknell Forest Council,  
FREEPOST SCE15737, Bracknell, RG12 1BR – no stamp required