

May 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

PUPIL PREMIUM / FREE SCHOOL MEALS

As you know, all children in Infant schools are entitled to the nationwide scheme; 'Universal Infant Free School Meals'.

However, as your child enters into junior school, the Universal Free School Meal scheme no longer applies and a payment of *£2.10 is charged for each school lunch taken. When a student is on our Free School Meals register, the school receives extra money for that student which is allocated to support the education of free school meals students. This extra money is called the Pupil Premium and its purpose is to ensure that children from low income families are not at a financial disadvantage during their education as a result of home circumstances.

**HC3S meal cost from April 2016; subject to change*

By receiving free school meals you can save up to £400 a year and ensure your child is eating a healthy, balanced meal every day. Students don't have to take our meals if they don't want to, but if they are on our Free School Meals register, then they qualify for other financial benefits throughout the year, including after school clubs (except GASP – Greenfields After School Playscheme), subsidised school trips, visits and Hampshire music lessons.

Is my child eligible for Pupil Premium?

In order for the school to receive the Pupil Premium funding a Parent/Carer must be claiming certain benefits. If you think you may qualify for Free School Meals (FSM) please register your child using the easy online facility which has been launched by Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S). You can now check your eligibility for FSM online. This self-service option is available at:

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/hc3s/freeschoolmeals.htm>

For this online service, all you need to do is enter your name, National Insurance number or Asylum number, address and your child's details. Then press *submit* to find out if you are eligible. If the result comes back *found*, this means your child is eligible for FSM and the system automatically tells the school. You no longer have to find the paperwork and go into school to get it checked.

If your child is eligible for free school meals you are also able to claim a free school sweatshirt. Please contact the Greenfields school office for details.

I would urge all families who think they may be eligible to use the online checking service before joining our school.

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours faithfully



Mrs E Stacey
Headteacher