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21st September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

You may be aware that if your child is either of Reception or Key Stage 1 age, they are entitled to a free school meal, every day, as part of a government funded scheme. The government's stated aim is to improve academic attainment and save families money. A study which presented evidence stated that universal free school meals can help improve health, attainment and social cohesion, and help families with the cost of living.

Some parents might not be aware that even though they are entitled to free school meals in Key Stage One, if they are under one of the categories below then they should apply to their local authority for free school meals as it actually provides the school with funding which would be used to support your child. If this was granted then it would also ensure that your child(ren) would continue to benefit from free school meals when they enter Key Stage Two. The categories are:

- Job Seeker's Allowance (income-based)
- Income Support
- Universal Credit - Your annual income assessed by the Department for Work and Pension must be less than £7,400. Any pupil eligible for free school meals before 1 April 2018 when the earned income threshold is introduced will retain their eligibility until then end of universal credit roll-out which is March 2025
- Child Tax Credit (but NOT receiving Working Tax Credit) – provided your annual income, assessed by the Inland Revenue, does not exceed £16,190 (Please note: this amount is subject to change in April every year)
- Employment Support Allowance (income-related)
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

If your child is in Year 3 – Year 6 and you feel that you fall within any of the above categories, then you should also apply to your local authority using the links below as this would entitle your child to free school meals and also further support within school.

More information and how to apply can be found on the following link [East Riding of Yorkshire Council – Free School Meals](#)

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we will support you with this.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Oxtoby', written in a cursive style.

Alison Oxtoby
Executive Headteacher