



# ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Head of School: Mrs Sarah Hilling  
Executive Head: Mrs Hester Wooller

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April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Pupil Premium and Free School Meals**

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we will receive extra funding called 'Pupil Premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at our school.

### **What is Pupil Premium funding?**

Extra funding is given to schools from the government to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation and can make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

It is provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for Free School Meals, or have been, at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the Armed Forces

### **Is my child eligible for Free School Meals?**

Your child might be eligible for free school meals, if you currently 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
- Universal Credit – provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400

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### **What is 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 funded scheme known as Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 but also may be eligible for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium according to the criteria listed above, you should still register because we'll still receive the extra Pupil Premium funding.

### **Does my child have to eat the free school meal?**

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because our school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways such as for school trips and uniform. This entitlement will stay in place until the end of their time at primary school.

### **How do I register?**

We can make a simple check to see if you are eligible – all you need to do is complete a short form, which includes some basic information including your National Insurance Number.

You only need to register once.

We have enclosed the application form, which should be completed and returned to the School Office. All applications will be treated confidentially. This information will then be forwarded to Wokingham Borough Council for them to check and confirm or decline eligibility. There is no limit to the number of times that your eligibility can be checked.

If you have any queries please contact the school office or email [admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk)

Kind regards



Mrs S Hilling  
Head of School

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