



Friezland Primary School

'A Family Committed to Making a Difference'

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Headteacher: Mrs R Hammond B.A. (Hons) PGCE NPQH

30.06.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS – ACTION NEEDED

You may be aware that the Government has announced changes and an expansion to the Free School Meals programme and Pupil Premium funding which means more children will be eligible. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to receive a school dinner through the Universal Free School Meals scheme. However, families who are in receipt of certain benefits may be eligible for additional funding which school can use, not only to cover the cost of school meals, but also to help school provide extra support, resources and opportunities for children.

This expansion will mean that all children in households receiving Universal Credit will now be entitled to Free School Meals and there will be two types of FSM:

- **Targeted FSM** - for families receiving Universal Credit with household earnings of £7,400 or less per year. This also provides schools with additional funding and access to some other support programmes.
- **Expanded FSM** - for families receiving Universal Credit with earnings above £7,400 per year. Children will receive free meals in school.

To check if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please visit: <https://fsm.lgfl.net/app>

If the system shows an eligible result you then must apply online as soon as possible, this does not happen automatically –

- Online: www.oldham.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals - Scan the QR code



If your child is currently receiving FMS outside of the Universal FSM you do not need to reapply. Oldham Council will be checking that the new criteria is met for current recipients as transitional protection will end from September 2026. Oldham Council will be writing to families who are no longer eligible.

Even if your child is in Class 1 or Class 2 receiving Universal FSM, it is important that you check eligibility to ensure we can gain funding for them in school.

To learn more about the changes, please visit: <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2025/06/expanding-free-school-meals-what-parents-need-to-know/>

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact the school office who will be happy to help in confidence.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Hammond
Headteacher



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL
2023 - 2024