



CHARMOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

This letter is to let you know about the government initiative for free school meals. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they are entitled to receive free school meals. If your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6, school meals will cost £2.30 a day. Children who are joining us in September will receive details about booking their free school meals at the beginning of the summer term.

However, whatever year group your child is in (even Years 3, 4, 5 or 6), if you get any of the following benefits, you can register for free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State 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 - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Although all children in infant classes (Reception, Year 1 or Year 2) will receive a free school meal, **it is still important that you apply** if you might be eligible. This is because, if your child is eligible, the school will receive additional funding called Pupil Premium. The school will receive £1,320 (2017-18) per pupil which is used to support their education as needed. It is up to the school how this money is spent, but this can add up to a lot of additional funding and can be used to really help children to achieve well as they grow older. It is important to apply before your child returns to or starts school with us in September.

For details of how to apply, please see the information by visiting <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/free-school-meals> and looking at Applying for Free School Meals and how do I apply for Free School Meals. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Morris
Headteacher