

Free school meals / Pupil Premium Grant

As a school we feel that it is vital for all our students to enjoy a healthy lunch; the school is part of the Healthy Schools Initiative.

To give all our students the chance to benefit from a healthy lunch we would like to advise you that free school meals are available if you receive one or more of the following benefits:

Your child may be eligible if you are in receipt of one or more of the following qualifying benefits:

- 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 - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children, who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals. Parents and carers can apply for free school meals online at <https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/parentportal>

In addition to your child benefitting from a healthy lunch all schools receive additional funding from the government for students who are eligible for free school meals. Full details of how this additional funding is spent can be found in detail on the school website Pupil Premium and Service Premium pages. The funding is given directly to schools so it can be targeted to ensure the qualifying students make academic progress in line with their peers.

At KSHS we do invite parents of qualifying students to draw down some of this funding (up to the value of £120) each academic year if they choose, to subsidise any of the following costs:

- uniform (including PE uniform and school shoes)
- transport costs (for students coming from outside of our designated transport area or who have to make a contribution to their transport)
- the cost of a school locker (please see separate sheet)

We simply ask that parents/carers complete the claim form on the school website www.kshs.uk/parents/free-school-meals. On completion, please return your form, and receipts, to the Finance Office or to finance@robertcarretrust.uk. The school Finance Director will be happy to assist with any enquiries lauren.bedford@robertcarretrust.uk.

This funding is only allocated to the school in the first instance however, if an application is made by a parent/carer and approved. Therefore, it is vital that parents/carers of students eligible to claim for free school meals do so. The child is NOT then obliged to eat a free school meal and they can, if preferred, maintain their current lunch arrangements.

It should be noted that our cashless catering system does not differentiate between a student who pays for their meals and a student on free school meals. This means that no student can be identified as being on free school meals therefore removing any stigma or embarrassment.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office on 01529 411017.