

Dear Parent / Carer

Free School Meals - Acting now could save you £445.50 a year in school meals and benefit the school with a further £935.

Registering your child for a free school meal (FSM) eligibility check could raise an extra grant of £935 per year, per child, for the school. This grant means that your child will automatically be allocated £2.25 for their school meal provision which can be spent in the school canteen, before school, at break and at lunchtime. Students who are in receipt of the FSM do not stand out from their peers. They do not need to carry a pre-paid card as they will pay for their food in the same way as all other students and staff in the school. We currently use a biometric system in which students pay for food using a copy of their fingerprint.

This additional funding is also used to support your child in making sustained progress as well as support for enrichment activities that will benefit them in their learning. This grant stays active for a period of six years.

Is your child eligible?

This grant is available from the government for every child whose parent or carer is in receipt of one of the following 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 – applying after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If your family meets any of the criteria listed above, please follow the link below to apply for the FSM eligibility check online:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

If you would rather have a paper copy and/or need support filling in the form please contact rgaskell@durring.com who will be happy to help.

Please note that in order for the additional funding to be allocated to school for this year, the eligibility application needs to be completed as soon as is possible. Thank you for cooperation in supporting our children.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Down
Assistant Headteacher