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| H:\Logo with strapline.JPG | **Winklebury Federation**  Willoughby Way, Basingstoke, Hants RG23 8AF  Head of Federation: Mrs S. Mathlin  Tel: 01256323244  E-mail: adminoffice@winklebury-inf.hants.sch.uk  E-mail: adminoffice@winklebury-jun.hants.sch.uk |

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for free school meals if you’re in receipt of one benefits listed below.

Registering for free meals could also raise an extra **£1,320** for your child’s primary school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed below.

The GOV.UK website explains that a child may be eligible for free school meals (FSM) if their parents are in receipt of any of the following benefits:

* Income Support
* Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
* Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
* Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
* The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
* Child Tax Credit, provided the parents are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an

annual gross income of no more than £16,190

* Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working

Tax credit

* Universal Credit - for those applying on or after 1 April 2018, their household income must be

less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits they get)

* Children may also get FSM if they receive any of these benefits directly, instead of through a

parent.

If your child is in Year groups R-2 they will automatically receive UNIVERSAL free schools

Meals (UFSM), however we are still required to check the eligibility to determine if you are entitled to other

benefits for example pupil premium funding.

The link to check your eligibility is: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants> and it only takes a couple of minutes to check your eligibility.

If you become entitled we will contact you to advise. Likewise, if you are eligible at the moment but later on are no longer entitled due to this change we will let you know. If you have already applied (regardless of your current FSM status) there is no need to apply again – you will be remembered in the system.

Many Thanks

Federation Admin Team