



12th July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

PUPIL PREMIUM AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your child is eligible for free school meals and you register them for this, we will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources available for your child.

Pupil premium funding is given to schools by the government, to help students reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It is provided for students who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

Each academy receives an extra £1,455 (for primary schools) or £1,035 (for secondary schools) for every eligible student who is registered for free school meals. This extra money makes a real difference to the quality of education we offer, and has to be used by the academy to enhance the individual learning of the qualifying student.

For example, pupil premium funding has been used for:

- Extra one-to-one or small group support within classrooms
- Employing extra teaching assistants to work within classes
- Running catch-up sessions for those who need extra help
- Providing breakfast to improve attendance
- Providing extra tuition
- Providing music enrichment for families who cannot pay for this
- Funding educational visits
- Investing in resources that boost learning i.e. laptops or tablets

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or 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 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
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

ACTING HEADTEACHER: Mr D Cumming

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Students who are registered for free school meals do not have to eat them and cannot be identified as receiving free school meals in anyway within the academy. If you are eligible but you prefer your child to have a packed lunch, you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

Vegetarian options are always available for free school meals, and dietary requirements can be accommodated as long as the academy is made aware of them.

How do I register?

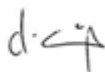
You only need to register once during your child's time at the school. The funding will then be available throughout the entire time your child attends their academy. Staff are available and willing to support parents through the application process. To register, please follow this link:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-tameside>

More information

More information about pupil premium can be found on your school's website, including details of how the pupil premium was spent previously and how it will be spent this year.

Yours sincerely,



Donald Cumming
Acting Headteacher