Miss Ceinwen Lodge
Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

Re: PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

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

What is pupil premium funding?
Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils 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

At Worth Valley Primary School, we get an extra **£1,320** for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational resources
- Additional staffing; such as being able to fund a teaching assistant in every classroom
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

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'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
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

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Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free schools meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

Mrs Barnes, our Parental Involvement Worker, will be contacting all our families who do not currently receive pupil premium funding, to enquire whether they may be eligible. As you can imagine, this is a huge task, though we hope to have completed the process by Easter.
In the meantime, if you feel you are eligible after reading the criteria above, please contact Mrs Barnes and arrange to come in to school – you will need your National Insurance Number.
Alternatively, you can register online at www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits/applying-for-benefits/free-school-meals/

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

If you have any questions or specific concerns, please contact myself, Mrs Rachael Page or Mrs Tonya Barnes.

Kindest regards

Ceinwen Lodge
Headteacher