



"Aiming High, Achieving Together"

Merton Infant School
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Hants
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30th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Free School Meals

All infant school children receive universal free school meals. However, some children are eligible for benefits related free school meals. If your child is eligible, you will also qualify to receive the supermarket vouchers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A child is eligible for free school meals if their parent or carer receives one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers' Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State 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 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (Parents who are made redundant or start working less than 16 hours per week, may find their children are entitled to free meals for a limited period)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

We understand that in these unprecedented times family circumstances may change and you may now qualify under one of the above criteria. **It is your responsibility to notify the school of any changes in your circumstances, either change of address, phone number or work details etc.**

You may check your eligibility online at:

<https://hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>

Please be aware that due to the high volume of enquiries the site may be slow to respond.

If you do qualify please email adminoffice@merton-inf.hants.sch.uk and we can arrange for supermarket vouchers to be issued to you. However, the processing time for these vouchers can be lengthy at the present time due to the high number of schools accessing their site.

Yours sincerely

Larissa James
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs Larissa James BA (QTS) NPQH

