



## Tackley C of E Primary School

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### Free School Meals

Could your child be entitled to a free school meal?

#### Expanded entitlement for families on Universal Credit

From the start of academic year 2026 to 2027, all children in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals, regardless of earnings.

Going forward, there will be two types of eligibility:

- **Targeted FSM:** for households in receipt of universal credit earning £7,400 or less (includes free meals and additional support such as pupil premium).  
Other educational entitlements such as the Holiday Activities and Food program (HAF) and the 'extended rights' element of school travel assistance, will also continue to be based on targeted FSM.
- **Expanded FSM:** for households in receipt of universal credit earning above £7,400 (free meals only)

Families with no recourse to public funds may also be eligible for Targeted FSM subject to meeting separate criteria.

For every pupil registered as Targeted FSM the school will receive additional funding in the school budget called Pupil Premium which is used to help raise achievement levels.

By ensuring that as many eligible families as possible have applied for targeted free school meals, we will receive our maximum Pupil Premium funding which enables us to provide the best education for our pupils.

#### End of transitional protections

Since 2018, some children have continued to receive free school meals, even if their family circumstances changed during the rollout of Universal Credit. This is referred to as transitional protections.

Now that entitlement is being expanded to all families on Universal Credit, these protections will end at the end of the 2025 to 2026 academic year.

This means:

Some children may **no longer be eligible** from the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year if their family does not receive Universal Credit or another qualifying benefit.



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## **Universal Infant Free School Meals**

All pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 will also continue to be entitled to free school meals under the universal infant free school meals policy regardless of family circumstances.

### **To apply for Free School Meals**

Please complete the form below and send to the school office team.

- [Registration form for free school meal eligibility](#)

### **Not sure?**

If you are unsure whether you need to apply, or if your circumstances have changed, please contact the school office for advice. Any information you provide will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Tackley School Office Team  
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