

Executive Headteacher: Ms Sarah Jane Bellerby

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[www.mulberrywoodwharf.org](http://www.mulberrywoodwharf.org)

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Re: pupil premium and free school meals

All children in Reception class are entitled to free school meals and therefore guardians often don't apply for this initiative, yet it can provide additional educational benefits for those families who are eligible. If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, Mulberry Wood Wharf will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

### How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

**To register, please complete the form [linked here](#)** instead of completing the paper form which was previously mentioned.

If you cannot use the hyperlink, please copy and paste the following address into your web browser: [https://benefitforms.towerhamlets.gov.uk/VictoriaForms/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Free%20School%20Meals%20\(1.0\).wdf](https://benefitforms.towerhamlets.gov.uk/VictoriaForms/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Free%20School%20Meals%20(1.0).wdf).

### 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

This extra money can be reinvested in your child's education. For example, academies within Mulberry Schools Trust use pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- 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

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- 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)

### 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 eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register so the school can receive this additional pupil premium funding.

Kind regards,

Sarah Jane Bellerby & Anita Croft  
Mulberry Wood Wharf Team