

21<sup>st</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

## ***Covid-19 Crisis***

### ***Additional Support Available for Families***

### ***No Child to Go Hungry***

You may not normally claim Free School Meals for your child or children; however, in these unprecedented times of crisis there is a scheme available which ensures that children still have access to healthy and nutritious meals – even whilst they are not attending school.

**By applying for Free School Meals, your child will be guaranteed a school lunch, Monday to Friday – even whilst in lockdown.**

If your child is vulnerable or if you are a keyworker and your child is attending school, and you are eligible, they will receive a lunch as usual.

If your child is at home completing work from school, and you are eligible, you will receive a £15 voucher every week, to be spent in a supermarket of your choice from the list below:

- Asda
- Morrisons
- Tesco
- Sainsburys

## Do you qualify?

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- Universal Credit
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

**During the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, the government is temporarily extending free school meal eligibility to include some children of groups who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF).**

These groups are:

- Children of Zambrano carers
- Children of families with no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- Children of families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are also subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction.

These groups are subject to a maximum household earnings threshold of £7,400 per annum.

The government is also temporarily extending eligibility to children of a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. This group is not subject to a maximum household earnings threshold.

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## How does it work?

1. First, check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list above – you may also be eligible if furloughed or on a zero hours contract.

### 2. If you have access to the internet:

For parents in Sheffield, please use the online form here:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/schoolmeals>

3. **If you do not have access the internet**, or need help in applying, please Email or text the school, Mrs Tough and Mrs Ousley will be very happy to help you.

4. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great – they will get the free meal or you will receive a weekly voucher, saving you more than £350 a year.

***All personal information will remain confidential and applying for the scheme will not affect any other benefits you may be claiming at this time.***

**Kim Wilson**  
**Executive Principal**

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