



11th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

## Help obtain government funding for Elham CEP School!

Did you know the government gives additional funding to schools for those children entitled to free school meals (even if they don't have a school meal)?

As you may be aware, ALL infant aged children receive a universal free school meal (UFSM), however, you may still be eligible for extra funding for your child. Pupils who are registered for free school meals enable our school to receive money to support these pupils in the form of the Pupil Premium.

Please can I encourage all parents/carers to apply for Pupil Premium for your child if you qualify.

Elham CEP School will use this money to obtain additional staff and resources that help improve the quality of education.

Please find link below from KCC which provides information on whether or not your child qualifies for Free School Meals. An on-line application can also be found here – <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>. PLEASE NOTE: **You do not have to wait until your child is in Year 3 to apply. You can apply on behalf of your child at any age.**

## What are the eligibility criteria to claim for Free School Meals?

The current criteria for claiming free school meals are that you must be in receipt of one or more of the following;

- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- 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 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 - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

If you would like any further information about Free School Meals, please contact the School Office and we will be able to assist you.

Kind regards,

Dan File

