

TRINITY CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

"Faith in the City, Value in People, Excellence in Education"

Higher Cambridge Street, Manchester, M15 6HP

Tel: 0161 – 212 1900 Fax 0161 – 227 9691

HEAD: Julian R. Nicholls B.Sc, M.A



June 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Free School Meal Eligibility – Key Changes – ALL PARENTS MUST REGISTER NOW

If your child currently receives free school meals, and you do not complete the online registration form on the link below, **THEIR FREE SCHOOL MEAL ENTITLEMENT WILL END FROM SEPTEMBER.**

We want to draw your attention to key changes brought about by the Children's Wellbeing and School's Act 2026 in relation to free school meal (FSM) eligibility. **If your child is currently in receipt of free school meals OR you think you are eligible under the new criteria, you must complete the registration form** referred to below in order to continue to receive free school meals in September.

From September 2026, all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit will be entitled to receive a free school meal.

There will be two categories of benefits-based free school meals:

- **Targeted FSM**, covering students who are in households in receipt on Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less. In addition to free school meals, students eligible for targeted FSM will attract pupil premium funding.
- **Expanded FSM**, covering students who do not fall into the above category, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit. Students who fall into this category will receive free school meals but will not attract further pupil premium funding.

Households may also be eligible if parents:

- are in receipt of support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999,
- are in receipt of income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Receive the guaranteed element of pension credit
- Meet the criteria set out in separate guidance for families with [no recourse to public funds](#).

Households must meet the FSM criteria from the start of 2026-2027 academic year to continue receiving provision if they currently do so under the transitional protections which have been in effect since April 2018. Re-checks will occur on an annual basis to confirm that households continue to meet eligibility criteria.

If your child already receives FSM or you believe that you may be entitled to receive free school meals based on the new criteria, we ask that you complete the online registration form by clicking on the link below. **Please do so as soon as possible.**

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>



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This will allow us to check eligibility and make the assessment as to whether you would be entitled to Targeted or Expanded FSM. If you have multiple children attending the school, you will need to complete a registration form for each child.

You only need to complete this form once. Subsequent rechecks of your eligibility will be carried out annually to assess whether you continue to be eligible for free school meals. You should contact the school if you have a change in financial circumstances.

IMPORTANT

A student is only eligible to receive a free school meal where both:

- A claim for support has been made – via the registration form
- Eligibility has been verified by school

If there is any information you cannot find, or you are having problems understanding, contact the school for help.

If your child currently receives free school meals, and you do not complete the online registration form on the link above, **THEIR FREE SCHOOL MEAL ENTITLEMENT WILL END FROM SEPTEMBER.**

Yours Sincerely

Alison Laming
Student Services Manager

