



# St Adrian's Catholic Primary School



Watling View, St Albans. AL1 2PB

Headteacher: Mrs Aideen Porter

Deputy Head: Mrs Karen Gallaher

Tel: 01727852687

Website: [www.stadrians.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stadrians.herts.sch.uk)

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*"To learn, to love, to live as a community of God with Christ as our teacher."*

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Important: Check your child's eligibility for Free School Meals (FSM) and Pupil Premium Funding**

We would be grateful if you could take a few moments to check whether your child is eligible for Free School Meals (FSM). Your participation can make a significant difference in the amount of funding we will receive and can make a real difference to the quality of education we offer. If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'.

### **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

Primary Schools receive extra funding for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. We can use this money in a variety of ways to not only support your child directly but improve the educational provision and resources for the whole school, helping to close the attainment gap and ensure every child has the opportunity to succeed.

If you would like to know more about pupil premium, please visit the following website for further information: [Pupil premium: overview - GOV.UK](#)

### **Why apply for Free School Meals?**

- Your child could be eligible for a nutritious school meal each day
- The school may be able to support your family in paying for school related expenses such as uniforms, trips and extracurricular activities.

### **What if my child does not wish to have a school meal?**



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Pupils who are registered for free school meals do not have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive pupil premium funding which can support your child in other ways.

## **Why should I apply if my child is already receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)?**

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal courtesy of a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). This should not be confused with Free School Meals and Pupil Premium funding.

If your child is registered for FSM they will still receive the same free school meal as those children in receipt of UIFSM but we will also receive additional pupil premium funding for them.

We therefore request that all parents/carers check their child's eligibility by registering for FSM. Please see details and links below on how to do this.

## **How to check your eligibility and apply for FSM**

It's quick and easy to check if you qualify, taking minutes of your time. Have your National Insurance number and/or Home Office number to hand when you apply.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers 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 (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits you get).

## Nursery children

Nursery school children aren't entitled to free school meals. Discuss lunch arrangements directly with our Nursery Teacher.

## Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

If your child is in reception, years 1 and 2 you can check your eligibility and apply [here](#).



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## Children in Year 3 or older

If your child is in year 3 or above you can check your eligibility and apply [here](#).

## **Where can I get help in applying and checking my eligibility for FSM?**

Please visit the following website [Free school meals | Hertfordshire County Council](#) for full details or visit the school office who are more than happy to help you through the application process and answer any questions.

## **What happens after my child has registered for FSM?**

Once you have registered or applied the school will be notified if anyone is eligible and we then contact you to discuss how the school can support your child and what school expenses we may be able to help with.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until March 2025 or until they finish their current phase of schooling e.g. the end of primary school.

## **How does the school spend the Pupil Premium Funding?**

If you wish to know more about how we use the pupil premium funding that we receive, please visit our website for a copy of our Pupil Premium Policy and for details of how we spend our allocation each year.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and your continued support and dedication to our school community.

**If you have any questions please contact the school office by email or telephone.**

Kind Regards,

Mrs Aideen Porter  
Headteacher