



March 2017

Dear Parent,

**Important information: Is your child eligible for free school meals?**

If your income is limited or your circumstances have changed you may be entitled to this and other benefits.

Recent changes mean it is now easier to claim. You can apply on-line at <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

If you qualify for government free school meals under the benefit criteria, a letter will be sent to you confirming your free school meal award. Your child's or children's school will also be informed.

Even if your child does not want to have school meals, the benefits of registering your eligibility go way beyond free dinners. For example, anyone registered for a free school meal is entitled to a reduction in the cost of residential school visits and may also be entitled to remissions for other school activities (in accordance with the school's Charging and Remissions Policy).

In addition to this, for every registered pupil entitled to free school meals the school receives a lump sum (known as Pupil Premium) which the school can then spend on ensuring all of its pupils make good progress.

We are specifically asking parents and guardians of pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, who think they might be eligible for Free School Meals, to complete this online form despite the Universal Infant Free School Meal Offer. We will then be able to confirm whether the school is entitled to claim the Pupil Premium for your child. No child will be discriminated against because they receive this benefit.

Whichever way you look at it there is a lot to be gained by making the application. Please feel free to contact us if you would like further information or access to a computer to make your application.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Gaskin  
Executive Headteacher  
The Trinity Federation