



Marhamchurch C of E School

Marhamchurch, Bude, Cornwall, EX23 0HY

marhamchurch.secretary@celticcross.education

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Applying for Free School Meals

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wednesday 1st April 2020

I understand that some of you may be experiencing some extremely challenging financial pressures during this unprecedented emergency situation impacting on the whole world. Therefore, I wanted to make you aware that if your circumstances have changed and you are now in receipt of the benefits listed below, then you are entitled to free school meals, which we are continuing to provide – even during the Easter break. Therefore, to help lessen these financial pressures, it is important for you to complete an application for free school meals and pupil premium (PP) funding.

Applying is simple, using your National Insurance Number. You can either apply online at <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolmeals> or you can remotely ask our school secretary (Suzanne) via e-mail (marhamchurch.secretary@celticcross.education) for a paper application and apply by post.

To successfully apply, the list of benefits that you need to be in receipt of include:

- Income Support (IS)
- Job Seekers' Allowance (Income-Based) and equal based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA-IR) and equal based Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (CTC) with an annual income of less than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Guarantee Element of Pension Credit (GPC)
- Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (IAA) Support
- Universal Credit - Your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get) as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods

If you are claiming the benefits listed below you are NOT eligible for free school meals, regardless of what other benefits/credits are being claimed:

- Working Tax Credit
- Contribution-Based Job Seeker's Allowance and/or Contribution-Based Employment and Support Allowance

However, you will be temporarily eligible to claim free school meals if you receive a Working Tax Credit run-on, which is the payment you may receive for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

Having read this letter, if you think that you are entitled to free school meals and pupil premium funding (and are currently in receipt of one or more of the benefits), we would encourage you to complete the application to help lessen your financial pressures. Take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. D. Hoare.
(Head of School)

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