

A decorative border consisting of a repeating pattern of a school meal plate. Each plate contains a red tomato slice, green peas, and a small portion of meat or vegetables, all served on a white plate with a blue rim. The plates are arranged in a grid-like pattern around the text.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Recent figures show that in some Shropshire schools as many as 45% of families are failing to claim their entitlement to free school meals. Claiming free school meals is a simple process and it is a right, not a privilege. Free school meals offer variety, are tasty and nutritious and can help your child maintain a healthy balanced diet.

You will be entitled to claim free school meals for your child if you or your partner are receiving:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Child Tax Credit only — provided you are not receiving Working Tax Credit and you do not have an annual income that exceeds £16,190 (as assessed by H.M. Revenue and Customs)
- *Note: If you are receiving Working Tax Credit during the 4 week period immediately after your employment stops or you reduce your working hours to less than 16 hours per week, your children will be entitled to free school meals. A claim must be made immediately your circumstances change and free meals will be awarded for the 4 week period until your claim for one of the above qualifying benefits has been processed by the relevant agency.*
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

Children who receive income support or income-based jobseekers allowance in their own right are also entitled to receive free school meals.

Due to Local Authority and Government reporting methods, the school actually benefits if everyone who is entitled to free school meals claims them!

So, by applying for your entitlement you will not only save money but you will also benefit the school as a whole.

An application form for Free School Meals will be available in the dining room during the induction evening.