

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium

School leaders are sympathetic to the financial difficulties families are currently facing and if you feel you may qualify for Free School Meals please contact the school office and we may be able to help however, there is a very quick **Free School Meals Eligibility Test** you can take.

Free School Meal Eligibility Checker

The 'Free School Meals / Pupil Premium Service' www.fsm.lgfl.net is a web site where parents can quickly and easily check eligibility for free school meals and, if eligible, generate additional funding for their child's school, known as 'Pupil Premium'. If eligible, you are not obliged to accept the free school meals for your child if you wish to make other arrangements however, we always want to encourage applications as the additional funding gained would still benefit education provision at this school.

What the service does for parents:

After entering some basic (but essential) details into the web site, the online application process links to the Department for Education system for checking eligibility and gives you an immediate 'yes' or 'no' response.

(CLICK 'CHECK AVAILABILITY', ENTER ESSEX LA AND CHOOSE SCHOOL – will say school is not part of LGFL, but will let you do the check anyway)

The following information will need to be entered :

- Parents NI/NASS number
- Parents Date of birth
- Parents full name

When the check is completed a 'Certificate of Eligibility' will be available for you to print or email to us at school

As suggested, this system is being provided to encourage parents to apply and take advantage of free school meals while at the same time increasing the benefit to schools from Pupil Premium funding, a substantial amount of which does not reach schools because not all parents who are eligible apply for free meals for their child.

So, please visit www.fsm.lgfl.net and enter the necessary details and support this worthwhile initiative