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Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may already be aware the Government run a free school meals scheme, which all families who believe they might meet the criteria can apply for. Pupils then receive a school meal each day which is funded by the Government, school also receive funding known as 'Pupil Premium' used to support children within school.

Please can we encourage you to check if you are eligible for Free School meals and apply online if you think you may be entitled. <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/>

The information states: 'If your child goes to a Shropshire Council-maintained school or academy school you may be able to claim for free school meals. There are two types of free school meals:

- Government (benefits-related) free school meals
- Universal infant free school meals

Who qualifies for government free school meals?

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income support
- Income-based jobseeker's allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of pension credit
- Child tax credit (provided you're not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working tax credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for working tax credit'

The application can be made on the Shropshire Council website, by completing an online form to submit the information required. <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/> Alternatively, if you do not have access to the internet, we can provide paper copies of the application form from school.

We would encourage it would be worth checking your eligibility, even if you have previously applied and we not eligible.

Please do not hesitate to ask if you require any support. As always all personal information will be treated in confidence.

Kind regards
Miss Coleman

www.stluciasprimary.co.uk

