

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Expansion of Free School Meals

We want to make sure all families get the support they are entitled to. The Government is expanding Free School Meals from September 2026, meaning more families will qualify.

We encourage all parents/carers to check, even if you have applied before and were not eligible.

Even if your child brings a packed lunch and does not have school meals, it is still important to apply.

## Why this matters

For every child registered, the school receives additional funding (pupil premium). This helps provide:

- school trips
- extra academic support
- wellbeing support

More information about pupil premium and how we use the funding is available on your school website.

## Reception and Key Stage One

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive free meals automatically. However, if you think you may be eligible, please still apply so the school can receive additional funding.

## Who qualifies?

Your child may be eligible for Free School Meals if your household receives any of the following:

- Universal Credit (*no income cap*)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on

If you are unsure, it is still worth checking. All applications are confidential and will not affect any benefits.

## How to apply

Apply online via our Trust's application form: [www.rklt.co.uk/fsm](http://www.rklt.co.uk/fsm)

It takes a few minutes and we only ask for a few basic details. We do not ask for any income information.

If you have any questions or would like help with applying, please contact your school office.

Thank you for your support in making sure all children receive the support they need.

Yours sincerely,

Red Kite Learning Trust