



Supporting your child

If your child is eligible for free school meals, your child's school will receive funding, known as Pupil Premium funding, of £1,480 each year for every child who is eligible for free school meals. This funding is used to support your child in school; the school decides how this funding is best spent.

All children in Key Stage 1 (Reception Year, Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals, regardless of family financial circumstances. However, Universal Infant Free School Meals does not provide the school with Pupil Premium funding unlike income related free school meals.

If you believe your child may be eligible for income related free school meals, we urge you to apply now. If your child proves to be eligible for free school meals, your child's school will receive the extra £1,480 funding each year. Receiving free school meals saves a family approximately £475 each year.

The government has agreed that all children receiving income related free school meals will have their eligibility protected until the roll out of Universal Credit is complete, which is currently March 2025. Thereafter, they will receive free school meals until the end of the school phase they are in at that time (primary or secondary). This means that eligible children starting in Reception Year or Year 3 in September 2024 will continue to receive free school meals until they finish Year 6, despite any changes to your financial circumstances. Further information is available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals.

Could your child be eligible?

If you think your child may be eligible, please visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals to view the criteria and to make an application. It only takes a few minutes and you will receive an instant response. If you have any questions or are having trouble completing the online form, please email your contact details to freeschoolmeals@suffolk.gov.uk or ring us on 0345 606 6067 for assistance.

Don't miss out – apply now!

www.suffolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals