



16 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'Pupil Premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is Pupil Premium funding?

Pupil Premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals.
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years.
- Are, or have been, in care.
- Have parents in the Armed Forces

For example, we've previously used Pupil Premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions.

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed 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
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

At Thistley Hough Academy we get an extra £1050 for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

Your child might also be eligible if you're in a household with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), subject to a maximum income threshold. This is for children of:



- Zambrano carers
- families who have no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are also subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Chen carers
- families holding a [BN\(O\) passport](#)
- spousal visa holders
- work visa holders
- student visa holders
- those with no immigration status

Under the permanent extension of free school meal eligibility to all NRPF groups, the annual household income thresholds for those families able to work are:

- £22,700 for families outside of London with 1 child
- £26,300 for families outside of London with 2 or more children

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school. To register, please complete the attached form and return it via email it to enquiries@thistleyhoughacademy.org.uk

More information

For more information about Pupil Premium go to our website, which contains details of how the Pupil Premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

If you have any questions or specific concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. My email address is jonathan.law@thistleyhoughacademy.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Mr J Law
Assistant Principal