



Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We want to make sure that we are providing your child with the best education and support we can. Healthy school food has obvious health benefits and can help pupils establish healthy habits for life. Healthy school food can also help to improve pupils' readiness to learn.

We are aware of the impact of the rise in cost of living on families and want to make sure everyone gets all the help they can. Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for free school meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Child Tax Credit

Even if your child does not purchase a school dinner, applying for this funding can make a huge impact on your child's educational experience. Registering for free school meals could also raise extra funding for the school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities for your child. These funds could be used to subsidise school trips for your child and to provide resources (e.g. revision guides) that you would usually be asked to pay for. This additional money (Pupil Premium) is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

If your child is eligible for free school meals the appropriate funds will be added to her account automatically, thus ensuring confidentiality and eliminating any embarrassment that your child may be concerned about. If you think your child might be eligible, please contact Hertfordshire County Council directly www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals. There is a very easy process for applying on their website and you can check whether you are eligible too.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M Jackson - Assistant Headteacher

