



Dear Parents and Carers

Claiming for Free School Meals

We are aware that a number of families are experiencing financial pressures in these difficult economic times and would like to remind you that claiming for free school meals is a very simple and discreet process.

You are entitled to free school meals for your children if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support *or*
- Income Based Job Seekers' Allowance *or*
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance *or*
- Child Tax Credit so long as you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual income (as assessed by HM revenue and Customs) does not exceed £16,190 *or*
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit *or*
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Students who receive free school meals have £2.15 placed on their Cashless Catering accounts at the beginning of every school day. This can be spent at break or lunchtime in the canteen. At the end of the day, any remaining money is removed from the account. The children cannot be identified as receiving free school meals when they use their account, the process is completely private.

If you are eligible, your child will be able to receive free meals as soon as your entitlement is confirmed and we are notified by the Education Welfare Benefits Service.

Details regarding eligibility criteria can be found via the following link

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/education/parents/help/lunches/

to apply online please then click on 'Education Welfare Benefits online application form' in the 'Related Links' section of the page.

Alternatively, your child can collect an application form from the Finance Hatch at the College during break or lunchtimes.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me by email hcoppin@chesterton.cambs.sch.uk or by telephone on 01223 712150 extn 159.

With regards

Ms Hayley Coppin
Finance Department