

CWA/LDA/GHA

11 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## Re: Eligibility for Free School Meals

I hope this letter finds you well and you have enjoyed a good start to the New Year.

The reason I am writing to you is that in these increasingly challenging financial times, my Colleagues and I want to make sure that we are providing our students with the best possible all-round support. One area of this relates to us providing good quality school food which has obvious benefits and can help young people establish positive habits for later life. Good quality school food can also help to improve young peoples' readiness to learn.

With this in mind, families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. If you are eligible and your child is already receiving these, that's good, however, there will without doubt be some of you who are eligible but not currently claiming this for your child. Therefore, if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits, your child may well be eligible to receive free school meals:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

Furthermore, registering for free school meals could also raise an extra £985 for the academy to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff, places on trips and visits or after school activities.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent/carer is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

### How do I register?

You only need to register once at the academy, and this can be done via contacting Mr Scott, our Director of Finance and Premises, via, [R.Scott@plume.essex.sch.uk](mailto:R.Scott@plume.essex.sch.uk) or 01621 854681.

For more information about the Pupil Premium Grant, please visit our website which contains details of how the grant has been spent in the past academic year as well as how it will be spent in the year ahead.

Yours sincerely



**Mr C A Wakefield**  
**Executive Principal**

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