

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Did you know that many children who are entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) do not receive them, as they are not registered with Lincolnshire County Council? Make sure YOU are not missing out.

Why register?

1. Your child can receive a free, healthy meal at lunch time – that could save you around £450 per year.

Students will receive a daily allowance of £2.50 but this can only be used at lunchtime, if they buy food at break this will come off their own account balance. Free School Meals (FSM) does not show on a student's WisePay balance either.

2. If your child is going on a school trip, a free packed lunch will be provided.
3. If your child presently has a packed lunch, is eligible and switches to Free School Meals it could save you hours of preparation time.
4. If you register then your child decides they do not want to take up the meal offer, they can stop doing so at any time.
5. You will be working in partnership with the academy – the Government gives additional funding for every child registered for Free School Meals, whether your child actually takes up the offer of the food or not. This money is used, for example, to:
 - Provide further support for FSM students identified as underachieving
 - Provide enrichment programmes to enhance and deepen the academic learning experience

What do you need to do?

1. First, check if you are eligible – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list on the next page, or look at the FSM link on the academy website.
2. Registering is really quick and easy – if you think you qualify, contact Lincolnshire County Council through the link below:

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-pupil-support/apply-free-school-meals>

If you are eligible you will be sent a letter that you need to send to enquiries@walton-ac.org.uk We will then contact you.

3. No internet access, or just want some help doing it? Please give our Student Reception a call on 01476 563251.

FSM eligible	Pupil Premium eligible
<p>You can register your child for Free School Meals if any of this applies to you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 • Income Support • Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) • Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) • Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 • The guarantee element of Pension Credit • Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190 • Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after the person stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit) • Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190 	<p>You can register your child as Pupil Premium if any of this applies to you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In receipt of Free School Meals • In receipt of Free School Meals within the last 6 years • You are a serving member of the Armed Forces • Your child is looked after, adopted, under special guardianship or part of a residence order

It is essential that you are assured that no-one will know you have registered for either of these schemes. Additionally, registering will not affect any other benefits you are claiming. All information regarding Free School Meals and Pupil Premium eligibility is kept confidential.

If you think you might be eligible to register, please visit the website stated in this letter. The scheme is a perfect example of how we can work together and the academy benefitting from you registering for these. Please register as soon as possible, but no later than to ensure that we all benefit from this additional funding.

If you require any assistance, please contact Miss A Johnson (01476 563251). They will be pleased to offer any assistance or advice required.

Yours sincerely

J Leonard
Principal

