



Rose Green Infant School
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what3words location: riverbank.flannel.crumbles

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Dear Parents and Carers,

During these challenging times, I know that for many families, financial circumstances have unfortunately changed. If this is the case, that may mean that your child is now eligible for Free School Meals.

The term Free School Meals is slightly confusing, because as an Infant School, every child here is already entitled to a hot meal through the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme. Free School Meals is different as it is linked to family income. If a child is eligible, a school receives funding called Pupil Premium Grant, which they use to support the eligible pupils. Schools choose to use this funding in different ways, but at Rose Green Infant School we use our funding to pay for staffing to support eligible pupils academically and/or emotionally, cover the cost of all their school trips and one after school club per week and pay for them to have free milk at snack time in school.

In addition to the benefits above, West Sussex County Council are currently issuing each eligible child with a food voucher during the school holiday weeks. Eligible children are also issued with what is called a HAF code, entitling you to book and attend for free (DfE funded), school holiday activities in the Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays, with providers taking part in the scheme. More information can be found [here](#).

Is my child eligible?

From 1 April 2018, free school meals in all West Sussex maintained and free schools and academies are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- [Universal Credit](#) (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- [Income Support](#)
- Income-based [Jobseeker's Allowance](#)
- Income-related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)
- Support under [Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#)
- The guaranteed element of state [Pension Credit](#)
- [Child Tax Credit](#) (provided you're not also entitled to [Working Tax Credit](#) and have an annual gross income of no more £16,190)
- [Working Tax Credit](#) run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

A number of pupils will also be protected against losing their current free school meals. You can find more information on GOV.UK

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Headteacher: Mrs Sally Dreckmann BEd (Hons) NPQH



If you think that you may now be eligible to receive Free School Meals, I would urge you to apply.

You must now apply online as paper applications are no longer accepted. The link is

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

If you would like any help with applying online, please do come and speak confidentially with Sharon in the school office – we can even help you apply here.

Yours sincerely



Sally Dreckmann
Headteacher

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