

May 1st, 2020

Applying for Free School Meals if your circumstances have changed.

Dear Parent/Carer

Many thanks to those of you which have successfully registered for Free School Meals, however we are aware the Covid-19 pandemic continues to affect employment and family incomes.

If you find yourself in this situation, you can apply for Free School Meals status if you are getting any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers 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 than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you think you are entitled, applications can be made through the Devon Citizens Portal, which can be reached from (<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>) This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, you can call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

If it is confirmed by DCC that you are entitled to Free School Meals, they will contact GTS to inform us. We would also ask that you email admin@gts.devon.sch.uk with your confirmation reference number so we can add you to the current government voucher scheme.

Yours faithfully,



Jacqui Royse
Deputy Head Teacher.