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Dear Parents/Carers

Free School Meals

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- *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 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)

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

*Younger than the compulsory age for starting school

*In full-time education

If you do not qualify for most benefits (also known as having 'no recourse to public funds'), your child may still be eligible for free school meals. Ask their school or local authority whether they're eligible.

Even if you don't want to take up the meals, making a claim will mean the school receives extra funding for each child registered. This 'pupil premium' funding pays for things such as training staff to help pupils achieve better outcomes; support for pupils struggling with subjects; counselling for emotional issues and behaviour; **it can also be used to subsidise school residential**. It is really easy and quick to apply - an online application can be made through the website at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/fsm or you can telephone 0300 123 5012. You will need to have your date of birth and national insurance number or national asylum support service number, along with the address and the children's details with you when you apply - you can apply for several children at a time on one application even if they are at different schools.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Many thanks.

Havannah Primary School Office