



LONG MARSTON VA C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL
STATION ROAD
LONG MARSTON
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Headteacher: Mrs L Whateley

21st March 2025

Dear Parents & Carers

Lots of changes are on the horizon for schools nationally and countywide due to financial pressures and cost increases.

One such change, if approved, relates to national funding for Free School Meals from April 1st 2025 for children who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding. Please note this does not affect Universal Infant Free School Meals that are provided for Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 children.

Any successful applications before 1st April will still get the ongoing entitlement to free school meals through to Year 6. Re-application will still be required when moving to Secondary School for all children.

Any NEW applications for children from Reception to Year 6 who qualify for this funding after 1st April, will not have the same entitlement through to Year 6. Funding will stop as soon as a family no longer qualify and it will be at the discretion of the school what support is available thereafter.

Please note, this information is also used to qualify for Pupil Premium funding in all years.

To qualify, parent(s) must currently be in receipt of one of the following:

- 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
- 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 four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

With this in mind, if you think you may qualify, we would encourage you to contact the school office without delay to support us making the appropriate checks so we can access this funding while the current offer stands. We cannot access these funds without your help, so please approach us if you are unsure.



'Together we grow and flourish with hope'

We totally understand there can be a stigma when pursuing support of this nature but these funds are used by school to directly benefit your children and make a difference for children at Long Marston.

Please do contact the school office with any questions and thank you in anticipation of your support.

Laura Whateley
Headteacher



'Together we grow and flourish with hope'