

Free school meals — please do check

This one matters more than it looks.

Every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 gets a free lunch automatically — so many parents of infants understandably never bother to register. But registering separately for **benefits-related free school meals** does two additional things: it continues into Year 3 and beyond, and it brings Pupil Premium funding into the school for your child.

In a school our size, that funding is the difference between running something and not running it. It pays for the extra adult, the intervention, the music lessons, the trip.

It takes a few minutes, it is entirely confidential, and no other parent or child will ever know. Check your eligibility on the [\[Essex free school meals page\]](#), or ask us and we will help you do it.