

Free School Meals

Now that you have been offered a place at our school you can now [apply for your free school meals eligibility check.](#)

Universal Infant Meals

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 will automatically receive a universal infant meal for free, but we do ask all parents to apply online for a free school meals eligibility check so that if you are also entitled under the qualifying criteria below, you and your school will receive additional benefits:

If eligible for the benefits-related free school meals, your child will receive:

- A free, healthy meal at school every day during term time. (a saving of £496 per year).
- A free Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme place during school holidays.

Your school will also receive:

- A pupil premium payment of Approx £1515 for every eligible primary school pupil and £1075 for every secondary school pupil that will benefit all children in the school.

The current qualifying criteria for benefits-related free school meals is:

- Universal Credit - your household earned annual income must be less than £7,400 after tax and not including any 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 guarantee 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 four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Criteria change from September 2026:

From September 2026 anyone who is in receipt of Universal Credit will be eligible for a benefits-related free school meal – you must make an application to receive a benefits-related free school meal. If you are on Universal Credit but over the annual income threshold of £7400 you will not be entitled to a free HAF place, just a free school meal.

How to apply:

If you applied to Solihull Council for your school place then you can use the same username and password to log in and make a free school meals application.

If you live outside of Solihull you will need to create an account before you can apply.

[Create an online account and apply for your free school meals eligibility check.](#)

If you are moving schools:

If you are already eligible for benefits-related free school meals and are either attending a Solihull school or moving from one Solihull school to another Solihull school, you **DO NOT** need to reapply as your entitlement to meals will move with your child's attendance and continue in September 2026.

If you were receiving benefits-related free school meals at an out of borough school and will be moving to a Solihull school in September 2026 then **YOU DO** need to [apply](#) for free school meals as these will not automatically transfer from your old school.

How you will be notified of the result:

When you apply you will automatically be able to see the outcome on the portal, we will then process your application and send you an email from the local authority to advise you officially of the result. The school will also be advised automatically of the result the following day. Please allow 5 working days for an email response.

Contact:

If you require further information please contact the free school meals team in Family Information Service or visit their webpage:

Email: edfreesm@solihull.gov.uk

Phone: 0121 704 6611

Web: <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals-and-universal-infant-free-school-meals>