



Crawshaw School

Live Local, Think Global

Headteacher Mrs Joanna Ruse B.A M.Ed

12 December 2011

Dear Parents and Carers

Did you know ... for every child registered as entitled to Free School Meal means that the school gets extra money?

Claim now to make sure we don't miss out

The Government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'.

For every child registered at this school we get £488 this year.

With this money we could increase intervention to improve support for students with their learning and development.

If you are registered for Free School Meals you could also get help with the cost of uniforms or some school trips.

Please claim before Christmas to make sure your child and others in their class don't miss out.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. First, check if you are entitled – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please take a look through the list at the end of this letter.
2. Registering is really quick and easy - you may not need to fill in a full claim form if you are already claiming rent or council tax as you will automatically awarded a free school meal. If you think you qualify and have not heard from benefits then please ring the Leeds Helpline on 0113 222 4404 and they will tell you what you need to do.
3. If you have not claimed in Leeds before, phone the same Helpline for an application form or call in to collect a form from a council run one stop centre – the staff will help you complete the form in private.
4. The claim form can also be downloaded from www.direct.gov.uk simply click on "*Free School Meals*" at the bottom of the main page and follow the links.



Crawshaw Partnership Trust



Robin Lane, Pudsey, Leeds, LS28 9HU

Telephone: 0113 3368540 Fax: 0113 2564722 Email: admin@crawshawschool.org.uk
www.crawshawschool.org.uk



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WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

1. Your child can have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime, saving you more than £350 a year in dinner money for each child or saving you the cost of buying another option such as a packed lunch.
2. Once you have been told you qualify for free school meals Leeds council will also consider you for a school clothing grant of up to £37.50 per child, even if you don't want your child to have the free school meal.
3. The school gets an extra £488 to spend for every child that is awarded a free school meal.
4. If you do not want your child to have the free school lunch they can continue as normal – as long as you are claiming this entitlement the school still gets £488 extra.

A SCHOOL LUNCH IS IMPORTANT

In our school we have made sure that no one will know you claim and it will not affect any other benefit you are claiming. If you have any questions you can speak in confidence by contacting Mrs Gaughan on 0113 3368540 ext 61513. All students use the cashless catering system which ensures that students entitled to free school meals are not identified.

Why not come and try a school dinner?

We encourage all our children to take a healthy school lunch to help them do better. School meals have changed a lot recently. We employ our own Chef/Manager and catering staff who prepare and cook fresh ingredients on daily basis, all sourced from local suppliers. We have a varied three week menu that is available on our website. Our dining area was recently refurbished with new modern dining furniture. We always welcome feedback on our catering service. For more information, please contact our Chef/ Manager, Mr Crabtree on 0113 3368540.

Leeds Children's Services also believe a healthy school lunch is very important to help our children and young people do their very best. We want everyone to feel comfortable about claiming a FSM and students to enjoy their lunch by making it easier to claim.

For more information go to www.educationleeds.co.uk/schoolmeals.

Please talk to us about claiming free school meal today.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Ruse
Headteacher



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Do you qualify?

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these 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 State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

You do not have to be unemployed to qualify; students and people working less than 16 hours a week can also claim if they get any of these benefits themselves.

Come and talk to us if you're not sure.



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