



## St Leonard's R.C. Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Dionne Dunn (Acting)

11<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

Dear parents and carers

### **RE: Free School Meal eligibility**

You may remember hearing in the news about Marcus Rashford and his successful campaign for ministers to guarantee **Free School Meals** during holiday times, as well as during the school term. This scheme allows your school to arrange, and send out to those who qualify, vouchers for local supermarkets to help you provide healthy lunches over holiday time, as well as making sure they have access to daily, healthy and nutritious school dinners!



We ask all parents and carers to check your eligibility so that you can ensure there is no possibility of your children missing out on the opportunity to receive a daily nutritious meal. The Easter holidays are very close and we will soon be preparing vouchers to cover the holiday entitlement. To check your eligibility for the vouchers, please go to the following website for further information or call on **0191 561 1417**:  
<https://www.grangetown.sunderland.sch.uk/For-Parents/Apply-for-Free-School-Meals-Online/>.

If you need access to a computer or help completing the portal requirements, Mrs Rose, our school's Office Manager, will be happy to help and can be contacted on 0191 521 0300.

If your child is eligible for **Free School Meals** and you register for this, school will receive extra funding called **Pupil Premium**. This extra money is used to improve the educational provision and resources at our school.

### **What is pupil premium funding?**

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At St. Leonard's Catholic Primary, we get an extra £1,345 for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of resources and opportunities that we can offer.

## Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or 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
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month).

Please do take the time to check whether you are eligible, especially if your child is in Key Stage 1, to ensure you don't miss out on any support you are entitled to.

Yours sincerely,

*Dionne Dunn*

Dionne Dunn  
Acting Head Teacher