



9th July 2020

Dear parent/carer,

Re: Pupil premium and free school meals

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at South Dartmoor Community College, this additional funding supports the college improvement plan.

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 (*eligibility is detailed below*)
- 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

Is my child eligible to register?

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for free school meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

You only need to apply now if you DO NOT have an existing free school meal claim and you meet one of the above criteria. You can apply directly to the local authority online here: [Citizen Portal](#)

Why register for free school meals?

Registering for free meals could raise up to **£955** extra for South Dartmoor. We will use this to fund improvements in whole school Teaching & Learning, targeted academic support, and wider co-curriculum opportunities. For example: staff professional development, extra tuition, additional teaching staff, subsidising learning resources and experiences and activities outside of school. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer our students.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches, you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

What will happen next?

Once you have registered and are approved by Devon County Council, we will receive this information and invite you to meet with us, to discuss how we can best support your child to access the learning and character development opportunities at South Dartmoor.

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

Please do not hesitate to make contact if you have any specific questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

Becky Flint

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