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Autumn 2023

Free School Meal Checking Service

Dear Parent/Carer,

If **your child** is currently on Free School Meals at their current/previous school or you believe that you may be entitled to Free School Meals for him or her, the College can make this check for you.

If you believe that you are eligible and wish the College to make the check for you, please provide the following information:

Please print clearly

Your Surname	
Your Forename	
Your Date of Birth	
Your National Insurance Number	
Your Child's Surname	
Your Child's Forename	
Your Child's Date of Birth	

The London Grid for Learning (LGFL) system that we use will notify the College immediately if you are eligible and we will then inform you.

Eligibility criteria is as follows:

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following 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 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 - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

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St Joseph's College
Beulah Hill
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Acting Headteacher - Mr G Mantillas BA (Hons) NPQH



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In addition, the following pupils will be protected against losing their free school meals as follows:

- Pupils who were eligible on 1 April 2018, or who became eligible since then, continue to receive free meals, even if their household is no longer eligible under the benefits/low-earnings criteria, up until March 2025 and then until the end of their phase of education
- New applicants for free school meals on or after 1 April 2018, who are in receipt of Universal Credit and have earnings above the earned income threshold, will not be eligible for free school meals

The Universal Credit rollout is currently expected to complete in March 2025

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- Younger than the compulsory age for starting school
- In full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2025.

This information was correct as at 9 February 2023

Kind regards

Admissions

By completing this form, you are giving the College permission to check your eligibility for a free meal via LGFL.

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