

9<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Ref: LXS/KMH



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[www.stjamesexeter.co.uk](http://www.stjamesexeter.co.uk)

*Believe and Achieve*

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Free School Meals

We would like you to consider whether your child might be eligible to receive free school meals. The criteria has changed over time and we want to ensure that every child who is eligible receives one. Additionally, for every child registered, St James receives an extra £935 from central government which we use to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff, teaching assistants or after-school activities.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- o Income Support
- o income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- o income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- o support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- o the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- o 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)
- o Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- o 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)

Children who are 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:

- o younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- o in full-time education

The quickest way to apply is through the Citizen Portal which will give you an instant decision: [https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal\\_LIVE/Account/Register](https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Register)

You will need to register on the system first. You will then receive an email with a link to activate your account. You can apply at any time but if you apply **by Monday 13th January 2020**, St James School will receive additional funding sooner. If you are not sure if you are eligible or if you would like support with the application, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 01392 209922.

Best Wishes,

Lindsay Skinner  
Headteacher

