



11th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

With the UK still in the midst of a Cost-of-Living crisis, we would like to remind our families that it's worth checking if you may be entitled to free school meals for your child.

Certain criteria must be met in order to be eligible. Please see the information below from Thurrock Council.

(If you are already in receipt of free school meals, please disregard this message)

<u>Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive either:</u>
Income Support
income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
income-related Employment and Support Allowance
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
Universal Credit – provided your total net earnings are no more than £616.67 each month.
the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
Your child must be attending a maintained school in the Thurrock area. If your child is attending school outside of Thurrock, you must apply to the council for the area in which they attend school.
All applications will be checked. We may ask you to provide evidence. You must supply the information requested within 2 weeks so we can process your application.

Even if your child brings a packed lunch to school every day or already receives a free school lunch under the Universal Infant Free School Meals initiative, the school will receive additional funding from the Department for Education for every child eligible for free school meals. This means that we have the opportunity to purchase the very best equipment and resources for your child to access at school.

Applications for Free School Meals are submitted online only. To apply to see if you are eligible, please visit the Thurrock Council free school meals page [HERE](#).

Yours sincerely

Both Schools

Buxton Road
Essex
RM16 2WU



☎ 01375 372723 Treetops School
01375 803300 Treetops Free School

CEO of Trust: Mr Paul Smith