

The Woodroffe School

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Friday, 7th January 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: **The New Pupil Premium**

It has been confirmed that the new Pupil Premium will be paid on the basis of the numbers of children in receipt of Free School Meals. Many parents already avail themselves of Free School Meals for their children; however, some do not apply because their children prefer to bring a packed lunch from home. I am writing this letter to ask that all parents who are eligible for free school meals consider making an application **as soon as possible** as this will maximise resources for Woodroffe School in this constrained financial climate.

Schools already receive some funding based on the numbers of students in receipt of free meals, and this is also being considered as an indicator for the "Pupil Premium" funding that is currently under consultation.

You qualify for free school meals if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Child Tax Credit **without Working Tax Credit** with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMR&C) of **less than £16,190**.
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you have recently become unemployed but are still receiving Working Tax credits, you may be entitled to free school meals, and should call **0845 155 1019** for advice. **Receipt of Working Tax credit in all other circumstances will make you ineligible for free school meals.**

You can telephone Dorset Local Authority on **01305 221000** to enquire about your eligibility for free school meals. Please note that even if you live in Devon or Somerset your application is processed by Dorset LA and not your home authority. Alternatively you can apply online by going to **<http://www.dorsetforyou.com/369746>** - there is a link on the school's website, the address for which is **www.woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk**.

If you have any queries regarding an application for free school meals please contact our Office Manager, Ms Caroline Hill, on 01297 442232.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Steward
Headteacher

