

Did you know..... just registering your child for **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

means that the school gets extra money to support pupils?
Register now to make sure the children don't miss out!

The Government gives money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'.

Hazelmere gets additional money for every child registered for **Free School Meals**. This money is vital to ensure that we continue with the very high level of classroom support we currently provide, which was praised by Ofsted, as well as individual or group support that your child may receive.

Please register to make sure that your child and others in their class don't miss out.

How does it work?

1. First check if you qualify - it's not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list below;
2. Registering is really quick and easy - if you think you qualify use the online application on the school Meals section of the Essex County Council website: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Pupil-Parent-Support/Pages/Healthy-Living-School-Meals>
3. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great - they will get the free meal (saving you more than £350 a year) and the school gets extra funding to use on supporting children
4. If you don't want your child to have free school meals they can continue as normal - as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets funding to use on teaching support.

No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming!

Do you qualify?

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

- 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



Please telephone, or come in and talk to the staff in the school office if you're not sure whether you are eligible or if you need any assistance with your application.