

Free School Meals – Information for Parents and Carers September 2012

We would like to help families whose children could get free school meals.

Why apply?

- Evidence suggests that there are many families living in and around Eastbourne, who are eligible.
- We would like to help families whose children could get free school meals to apply for them.
- School dinners provide a healthy, nutritious and tasty meal.
- Research shows that a school dinner can help concentration levels.

How to apply or ask for assistance?

- You can request a form from the Attendance and Student Welfare Office, 01323 746508 studentwelfare@cavendish.e-sussex.sch.uk
- You can download an application form from the Cavendish School website www.cavendishschool.net
- Please complete the form and return with the supporting documents in a confidential envelope for the Attendance and Student Welfare Team to process.

How will my child obtain their meals?

Once the school has confirmed a student's eligibility for free school meals the student will be able to key in the cashless catering number when paying for the meal in the same way as their friends.

Who can apply?

Any parent or carer of a child in full time education and in receipt of one of the following:

- Income support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit - provided you are **not receiving Working Tax Credit** and your annual household income (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) **does not exceed £16,190**. You will need to provide the original Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602) for the current financial year.
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Did you know?

Did you know that just registering your child for free school meals means that Cavendish School will receive £600 from the Government called a "Pupil Premium"? This money can be used to ensure that pupils who receive free school meals are able to achieve to the highest standard, by enabling us to monitor progress and where necessary to provide one to one tuition in key subjects. It may also be used to provide financial help with trips and activities for these students. This extra support will help us ensure that no one in our school community is disadvantaged. If you don't want your child to have the school meals (which could save you approximately £350 per year) as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets the funding.