



Principal: Mrs A Burton B.Ed (Hons) PQH

June 2023

Free School Meals/School Uniform Allowance 2023-24

I would like to provide you with an update on the 2023/24 application process for Free School Meals and School Uniform Allowance.

Current Eligible Families and New Applicants

The Education Authority are getting ready to launch applications for Free School Meals & Uniform Allowances for the upcoming school year.

Parents/guardians who are currently in receipt of support will need to re-apply for the 2023/24 school year. All parents/guardians (including new applicants) must <u>apply online via the Education Authority website.</u>

Parents/guardians who are currently in receipt of the following benefits, will need to upload a 'Proof of Benefit Letter' along with their application. **Please note applications cannot be processed until the Education Authority receive supporting documentation**.

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit

It is important for all applicants to read and understand what supporting documentation is required for their application. Information on this can be found on the EA website.

Free School Meals/Uniform Allowance Helpdesk

The Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance Helpdesk is available to assist parents and guardians who may have any queries. The Helpdesk operates Monday - Friday from 9am to 4.30pm and can be contacted via email: <u>mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk</u>. The telephone number which should be used for all enquiries is 028 9041 8044.

Please note, the Free School Meals/Uniform Allowance service is extremely busy over the summer months so it is advised that all parents/guardians intending to make an application do so <u>early</u> to ensure it is processed before the start of the new school year. Remember, we cannot provide a free meal to pupils until the EA have informed us that their application has been successful.

Mrs A Burton Principal