

September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

During these unprecedented circumstances some of our families are finding themselves facing a different financial outlook than expected. Some families may now be eligible for alternative benefits and you can check this out on:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/coronavirus-check-what-benefits-you-can-get/>

You may also find that your child is now eligible for Benefits Related Free School Meals. Below is a list of criteria against which you can check this. If your child is currently in Yr R, 1 or 2, they will already be receiving a free school meal when at school however the funding received could be used for other things in school such as school trips.

Regardless of which year group your child is currently in (YrR – 6), please check the attached criteria and if you think you are eligible, please apply via the link provided. Loose Primary School will receive funding for each successful application even if your child, from time to time, prefers you to make them a lunch box.

Do you receive any of the following? :-

- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- 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 are 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.

If so then you can apply online using the below link. The application takes about 5 minutes and the outcome is instant.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>

Alternatively we can do this on your behalf if you complete the information below and return it to the school office at [office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk)

**Parent details**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Full address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

National Insurance Number \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's details**

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you.

If your child is eligible for free school meals with an active application on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020, they will remain eligible until 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024.