



Tring School

Mortimer Hill, Tring, Hertfordshire HP23 5JD

Tel: 01442 822303 Fax: 01442 890409 E: tringschool@tring.herts.sch.uk
www.tring.herts.sch.uk Headteacher: Mrs Susanna Collings BSc (Hons), MA, FRSA

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Dear Parents and Carers

***Did you know ... just registering your child for Free School Meals means that your child could benefit from meals worth £400, and the school also gets extra money.
For every child registered Tring School received £488 this year.***

The Government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families achieve their academic potential. This funding is called the 'Pupil Premium'; with this money we could support your child with educational costs e.g. text books, printing, additional classroom support, curriculum based school trips etc. If you register for Free School Meals you could also get help with the cost of music lessons, assisted transport, TrainCard/SaverCard and school trips.

The amount Tring School will receive for 2012/13 is dependent on the number of students registered for Free School Meals on 19 January 2012. Your child **does not have** to take a meal; it is the registration which provides the funding. Although you can apply at any time, please try to apply before Christmas or as soon as possible in January to make sure your application is processed in time to affect the funding for 2012/13.

The fact that you have registered for free school meals will remain confidential. The daily meal allowance of £2.05 will be added to your child's biometric cafeteria account each day and purchase transactions are processed just the same as any other paying account, **other students will not be aware that your child is receiving a free meal.**

More information regarding the cafeteria, free school meals and the biometric payment system can be found on the school website.

Please register your child today.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Collings
Head Teacher



How does it work?

1. First, check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please refer to the following list.

2. Registering is really quick and easy – if you think you qualify, please apply on-line via the Hertfordshire County Council website <http://www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals> or contact Mrs T Perry at Tring School (01442 822303) or Hertfordshire County Council (0300 123 4048) who will help you to register. By applying online, in most cases you will not need to provide paper proof of benefit and once your application is approved you will not need to do anything else. Herts County Council will write to you to confirm which benefits you qualify for and will also advise Tring School.

3. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime they will get the free meal (saving you about £400 a year), extra benefits and the school gets £488 extra.

4. If you don't want your child to have the school meals they can continue as normal – as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets £488 extra.

Do you qualify?

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- 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 Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Pupils can also register for Free School Meals if they get any of these benefits themselves.