



# Ormiston NEW Academy

PRIDE – ENDEAVOUR – TOGETHER – EXCELLENCE

Marsh Lane, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV10 6SE

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2<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **IMPORTANT – DON'T LOSE OUT! Changes to free school meals from the 2026 to 2027 academic year**

We are writing to let you know about changes to free school meals (FSM) from the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year.

### **What is changing?**

From the start of academic year 2026 to 2027, all children in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals, regardless of earnings.

Going forward, there will be two types of eligibility:

- **Targeted FSM: for households in receipt of universal credit earning £7,400 or less. Families will receive free meals and additional support such as pupil premium and other educational entitlements such as the Holiday Activities and Food program (HAF)**
- **Expanded FSM: for households in receipt of universal credit earning above £7,400, families will receive free meals only**

Families with no recourse to public funds may also be eligible for Targeted FSM subject to meeting separate criteria.

This therefore means:

- **Some children may no longer be eligible from the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year if their family does not receive Universal Credit or another qualifying benefit**

Eligibility, going forward, will be based on current benefit status

### **What you need to do**

If your child currently receives free school meals:

- In most cases, you do not need to reapply - the local authority will check your eligibility automatically using the details already held and inform you of any changes to your FSM eligibility
- In some cases, your child's school or the local authority may contact you to confirm your details are correct
- If your child is starting a new school in September, they will be in touch to confirm whether you need to confirm your details or reapply.

If your child does not currently receive free school meals, you may now be eligible under the expanded criteria.

### **To apply for Free School Meals, you will need to provide the school with:**

Your full name

Your date of birth and

Your National Insurance (NI) number or asylum support reference number

Please send this information to [info@onewa.co.uk](mailto:info@onewa.co.uk) or complete this in Arbor

We will then share your details with City of Wolverhampton Council who will check your eligibility using a secure Government website.

Schools receive valuable Government funding called Pupil Premium for every child registered for FSM. Even if your child chooses not to eat school meals, we would still encourage you to register.

**Not sure?**

If you are unsure whether you need to apply or if your circumstances have changed, please contact:

- Your local authority, or
- Ormiston NEW Academy directly – [info@onewa.co.uk](mailto:info@onewa.co.uk)

Yours sincerely,



Mr. C. Cooling  
Principal