



6th November, 2017

Dear Parents,

Did you know that your child could qualify for free school meals?

If your child is eligible, it means they can enjoy delicious, healthy meals without the bills and fuss of making packed lunches. In addition to free lunches, those who are eligible can also have a free breakfast before school.

You are entitled to claim for free school meals if you receive one of the following:

- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Support Under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (**BUT NOT** entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual income does not exceed £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit 'run on' - *during the four week period immediately after your employment ceases or after you start to work less than sixteen hours per week*
- Universal Credit

Tarleton Academy actively encourages all families entitled to free school meals to apply. No-one else will know that your child qualifies as we use a cashless system that means that payment is discreet. Your child's catering account will be topped up daily automatically with £1.65 for breakfast and £2.20 for lunch. Please note that students cannot carry over the breakfast allowance to lunch, or 'save up' their allowance. Purchases beyond this amount are funded by parental 'top up'.

Claiming free school meals also helps us support your children further in school. We receive extra funding, known as the 'pupil premium', for every eligible pupil who is registered. The pupil premium grant is funding provided to schools to focus additional resources on helping pupils who are eligible in this category to reach their full potential, to make sure this is in line with their peers. The more pupils that are registered for free school meals, the more funding the school receives on their behalf. Please remember registering for free school meals does not mean your child has to take up free school meals if they do not want to but it does bring this 'top up' funding to enable us to ensure they are supported in other ways to make sure they can do their best.

If you think that you may be eligible, please complete the attached form and send it to the Pupil Access Team directly at: **Pupil Access Team South, Level 1, Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ Tel: (01772) 531809**

If you have any further questions or queries regarding free school meals please contact Mrs B. Jarvis.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Cunniffe
Head of School