|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **How is the pupil premium funding used?**  The pupil premium is not used to pay for school meals. TLA use the funding to improve the attainment of pupils who are eligible.  You will find more information about how we use our pupil premium funding on our website:  <https://www.tla.essex.sch.uk/pupil-premium>  **How can I ensure the school gets funding?**  The more eligible pupils that are registered for free school meals, the more funding the school receives.  Registering does not mean your child has to take up free school meals if they don’t want to.  You should still register for free school meals even if you would rather your child had a different meal, such as a packed lunch.  **External sources**  The government’s website has information about who is eligible for free school meals.  You can also read further information about the pupil premium at the following link.  **Pupil premium funding and accountability for schools** https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-information-for-schools-and-alternative-provision-settings |  |  |  | T:\Admin Staff (OLD WINPOOL)\OFFICE\Logo_Back_Final for printing without background colour.jpg  **The Thomas Lord Audley School**  **Free School Meals and Pupil Premium**  **Parent Information**    **Free School Meals and Pupil Premium** |  |

**What are the benefits of claiming free school meals?**

School meals are a good way to ensure that your child eats well at lunchtime, and they can also save you time and money.

Claiming free school meals also helps the school. We get extra funding, known as the ‘pupil premium’, for every eligible pupil who is registered.

Your child may then become eligible for assistance with paying for items such as resources and trips.

**What is the pupil premium?**

The pupil premium grant is funding provided to schools to help all pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation.

Pupils may be eligible if they:-

* Are registered for free school meals;
* Have been registered for free school meals at any point since May 2010;
* Are, or have been, in care;
* Have parents in the armed forces;

**Where to go for more information**

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals/essex>

**To apply on line for free school meals**

Please visit <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/ofsm-east>

Or contact the school and we will be happy to assist.

**You will require your National Insurance number, child’s full name and date of birth.**

If you have any questions about free school meals, please speak to the Main Office.

Tel: 01206 547911

email: enquiries@tla.school

**Which pupils qualify for free school meals?**

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:-

* 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’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190);
* Working Tax Credit run-on;
* Universal Credit.

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

We operate a cashless catering card system so free school meals are anonymous at the till point.