



Cronton C. E. Primary School

Believe... Enjoy... Succeed... Together...

Headteacher: Mrs Sylvia Thomson

Tel: 0151 424 3881

Fax: 0151 420 5398

e-mail: crontonce.de@knowsley.gov.uk

Website: <http://cronton.mybesthost.com>

Smithy Lane
Cronton
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 5DF

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Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Free School Meals Entitlement

We have noticed that some of our families may not be aware that they may be entitled to claim for Free School Meal Entitlement. We appreciate that some parents do not claim Free School Meals as they feel they can 'cope' without. Also they feel that their child will be singled out by other children. We can assure you that this will not be the case.

Some of our children do currently benefit from Free School Meals. Our meals are of extremely high quality, prepared daily by our qualified cook and meet all government guidelines for nutrition.

Children can receive a Free School Meal if their parents receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (income cannot exceed £16,190)
- Child Tax Credit (with Working Tax Credits if you are working no more than 16 hours and your income is £16,190 or less)
- Guaranteed Element of Pension Credit

In addition, due to recent changes in government Free School Meal numbers will significantly affect our overall budget. We will receive additional funds for each child who has made a successful application for Free School Meals. This will help us provide even more learning opportunities in addition to what we already deliver for your child. The government spending decision for schools is designed to increase the money available to us and is totally linked to the pupil premium. The Pupil Premium that has been announced will be based on the number of children with Free School Meals – the more the school has the more money they get. The amount is currently £430 per child.

Parents will need to make a claim for Free School Meals from the Local Authority in which they live. For this we requested and have received the claim form for the two main LA's that we deal with – Knowsley and Halton. Please find attached an application form which, if you think you qualify or wish to enquire if you qualify for FSM, you should complete and return the form to the address on the relevant letter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Thomson
Headteacher

