



Could YOUR CHILD be entitled to Free School Meals?



A lot more families qualify for Free School Meals than you might think!

The main advantage is that students are credited with £11.25 a week to spend in the School Dining Hall on whatever they choose; this is the equivalent of £2.25 a day, which adds up to over £400 a year...or over £2000 over the course of five years at school. Think what that money could be spent on instead!

Students receiving free school meals can choose whatever they wish up to the value of £2.25 a day.

Our 'cashless catering' fingerprint-scanners mean that no other students or catering staff are aware of who receives free school meals, and who does not. This reduces any possible chance of your child being treated differently; very often a reason why some parents do not wish to register.

For each day's credit students can choose from: -

- Grab Bags of Sandwiches or Pasta Pots with a drink and snack
- Breakfast Baps, Wraps, and Fruit Pots
- Baked Jacket Potato with Filling
- Daily Selection of Paninis , Pizzas and Hot Pasta Pots
- A Two-course meal, including a hot main course



In a typical month here is a Top Twenty Main Meals that students can enjoy if they choose:

Top Twenty Tasty Meals:	
1. Stir Fry Beef with Hoi Sin Sauce	11. Firecracker Chicken
2. Mediterranean Chicken Pitta	12. Homemade Burger
3. Chicken & Spinach Balti	13. Roast Turkey
4. Cod in Batter	14. Meatballs in Pepper Sauce
5. Tomato & Lentil Lasagne	15. Mixed Bean Goulash
6. Butternut Squash Enchiladas	16. Red Pepper Quiche
7. Roasted Vegetable Roulade	17. Vegetable Cottage Pie
8. Stilton, Leek & Potato bake	18. Tomato & Aubergine Layer
9. Five Bean Chilli	19. Piri Piri Chicken
10. Oriental Noodles in Sweet Chilli Sauce	20. Roasted Vegetable Enchilladas

How Do I Register?

The Cheshire West and Chester website gives you all the details. The registration process is not visible to anyone at the school; we are only given an updated list of names, with no details or any criteria provided to us.



Cheshire West and Cheshire: Free School Meals

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/school-meals.aspx>

If your child goes to school within the Cheshire West and Chester area, is up to the age of 16 or goes to a school sixth form, you may be able to claim free schools meals for them.

Do I qualify for free school meals?

You may qualify if you are a parent, guardian or carer and receive one of the following:

1. Income Support (IS) or you are a pupil receiving the benefit in your own right
2. Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
3. Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
4. Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; or
5. Child Tax Credit (**but not Working Tax Credit**) and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
6. The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
7. Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
8. Universal Credit
9. Children who get any of the above benefits in their own right (ie they get benefits payments directly, instead of through a parent or guardian) can also get free school meals.
10. You can also claim if you are an asylum seeker.

How you and the school will be notified that you are entitled:

If successful, your claim should be processed the same day. A letter of entitlement will be issued to you. The school will be notified of each child on the morning following the day the claim was processed. Claims cannot be backdated. Your claim will be renewed automatically, as they are periodically reviewed.

Claim free school meals online:

https://online.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CitizenPortal/formPortal.aspx?form=3_1_2_10fsm_apply

Where else to find help:

- Email: Benefits@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Telephone: **0300 123 7021**, Monday to Friday 8am to 7pm
- By post: Revenues and Benefits Department, PO Box 187, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH34 9DB

Collect or hand in forms or documents:

At most of the Cheshire West and Chester offices you do not need an appointment to hand in forms. Staff will check and copy your documents and return them to you straight away. You don't need an appointment to collect a form.