

Free School Meal Allowance

Are you eligible to receive a free school meal allowance for your child?

Free school meals are for:

- school pupils up to the age of 16; and
- pupils who go to a school sixth form.

Children who are 16 and over can't get free school meals if:

- they are on a post-16 further-education course linked to a further-education college (such as the Manchester College) even if they go to a school site; or
- they go to a further-education college or a sixth-form college.

The parent must be responsible for that child, for example, receiving Child Benefit for them. The parent must also get:

- Income Support; or
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance; or
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance; or
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit; or
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not Exceed £16,190 (from 1st April 2010); or
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' – the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

To confirm if you are eligible you should contact your local Council. The Council to whom you pay your Council Tax is the Council that will deal with your free school meal enquiry. Listed at the bottom of this page is a list of the neighbouring authorities and their contact details for enquiries related to free school meals.

What happens once it is confirmed that my child is eligible for free school meals?

- You will receive notification from your Local Council that your child is eligible.
- Sale Grammar School will also receive notification that your child is eligible.
- The current free school meals allowance is £1.85 (as of 1st September 2011).
- The sum of £1.85 will be placed into your child's Parent Pay account on a daily basis.
- Your child will present themselves at the till in the School Canteen as any other student would to pay for their food.
- As it is possible that your child will spend over their £1.85 free school meal allowance, we strongly advise that you make a payment into the Parent Pay account (minimum £10.00), to account for any overspend.
- At the end of each day, if any of the £1.85 free school meal allowance has not been spent the remained of that allowance will be removed from the Parent Pay account, your child is not entitled to carryover any underspend to the following day.

For further information about Parent Pay please click [here](#).

LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTACT DETAILS

Trafford

Access Trafford
Waterside House
Waterside
Sale
M33 7ZF
Tel: 0161 912 3265
Email: freeschoolmeals@trafford.gov.uk

You can find more information on their website by clicking [here](#).

Manchester

Manchester City Council
Revenues & Benefit Unit
PO Box 3
Manchester
M15 5BA
Tel: 0161 234 5003
Fax: 0161 455 1130
Email: benefit.enquiries@manchester

You can find more information on their website by clicking [here](#).

Stockport

Free School Meals & Clothing Grants Team
Stockport Council Benefits Section
PO Box 70
Stockport
SK1 3ZY
Tel: 0161 217 6015
Fax: 0161 474 5202
Email: benefitsfm@stockport.gov.uk

You can find more information on their website by clicking [here](#).

Salford

Tel: 0161 909 6508

You can find more information on their website by clicking [here](#).

Tameside

Education Welfare
Tameside MBC
Council Offices
Wellington Road
Ashton-under-Lyne

OL6 6DL

Tel: 0161 342 8355

Fax: 0161 342 2299

You can find more information on their website by clicking [here](#).

Warrington

Children & Young Peoples Service

New Town House

Buttermarket Street

Warrington

WA12 2NJ

Tel: 01925 442938

You can find more information on their website by clicking [here](#).