



5th October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following our previous communication regarding changes to Free School Meals (FSM), we would like to remind families to check whether their child is eligible.

From September 2026, **all children from households receiving Universal Credit are entitled to a free school meal.**

There are now two categories of benefits-based Free School Meals:

- **Targeted FSM** – for households receiving Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less.
- **Expanded FSM** – for households receiving Universal Credit who do not meet the Targeted FSM income threshold.

If your household receives Universal Credit, or your circumstances have recently changed, please use the link below to check and apply for Free School Meals:

[Free school meals: Apply for free school meals | Essex County Council](#)

Even if you have applied previously, we would encourage you to check your eligibility again.

If you need any support with your application, please contact the school and ask for Student Services.

Yours faithfully,

PASSMORES ACADEMY