



Gladstone Road Primary School

Wooler Street, Scarborough
North Yorkshire, YO12 7DD

Head teacher: Mr. G. Johnson

"Learning to Succeed"

Tel: 01723 372566 Fax: 01723 501126

Email: admin@gladstone.n-yorks.sch.uk

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Dear Parents

Free School Meals Entitlement

I am sure you will be aware from the news that the Government has now agreed to extend the Free School Meal voucher scheme over the summer holidays. This means that parents of children in any year group from Reception through to Year 6 will be entitled to receive a voucher for £15/week for each child eligible for Free School Meals from the date they become entitled and including the 7 weeks of the summer holidays! (NB If your child is currently in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, when they were in school they will have been getting 'Universal Infant Free School Meals', but this is not the same as the economic Free School Meals entitlement). So, if you haven't already done so and you meet the criteria, please apply a.s.a.p by completing and returning the attached form – or collect a copy from the office.

To qualify for free school meals you must be in receipt of one the following:

- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods (£616.67 per month);
- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are also not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual household gross income that does not exceed £16,190 (as assessed by HMRC); or
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

Please note that contributions-based benefits, including contribution-related Jobseekers' Allowance do not entitle you to claim free school meals.

Applications are usually processed within five working days. Free school meals claims cannot be backdated. They are awarded from the date we receive the application, once eligibility is confirmed.

Once we receive confirmation that your claim has been approved, we will then submit an order for your e-voucher. School will need your current email address as you will receive a barcode from EdenRed (who are administering the scheme on behalf of the government). This can then be redeemed for use in a choice of supermarkets including Sainsbury, Tesco, Asda, Morrisons, Aldi & M&S.

If you feel you may now be entitled to Free School Meals, please complete and return the attached form to school as soon as possible so we can start ordering for you! (However, please note if your child is now coming into school, we will only be able to order the vouchers for the summer holiday period).

Yours sincerely,

Garry Johnson
Head Teacher

