

Our Ref: AMDM/JF
Your Ref:

Anne-Marie Davies Macleod
Head of Resources & Performance

To: Parents/Carers

Education & Children's Services
Woodhill House
Westburn Road
Aberdeen
AB16 5GB

Telephone: [01467 533400](tel:01467533400)
Email: fsm@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

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Dear Parents/Carers

Direct payment of Free School Meals for Summer Holidays 2025

All pupils currently entitled to statutory free school meals will shortly receive a payment of £75.00 to cover the Summer holiday period from 7 July 2025 to 15 August 2025. Please note – statutory free school meals are awarded to parents/carers based on their income circumstances. The holiday payment does not apply to children in Primary 1 to 5 who are entitled to universal free school meals or children in Primary 6 to 7 who are entitled to free school meals due to parents being in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment (which are not income based).

School Clothing Grants

All pupils who are currently eligible for statutory free school meals will also receive a clothing grant. The grant amounts to £120 for primary school pupils and £150 for secondary school pupils.

Do I need to apply for this funding and when will I receive payment?

Eligible families already in receipt of statutory free school meals, do not have to apply for this payment. Payment will be made direct to your nominated bank account on **4 July 2025**.

I have recently applied for Free School Meals, but I've not been notified of the outcome

If you have recently applied for income based free school meals, please be assured that we are dealing with all applications as quickly as possible, and we will contact you direct when your application has been processed.

Families who are on a low income but not currently in receipt of free school meals can check entitlement by completing the following online form:

[Check entitlement and apply for free school meals](#)

Children are eligible for free school meals if their parents (or carers) are in receipt of a qualifying benefit.

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Parents-Carers - FSM - Summer Holiday Period 2025 ENGLISH

The current qualifying benefits and allowances are:

- Income Support (IS)
 - Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)
 - Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
 - Any income related element of Employment Support Allowance
 - Support under Part VI of the [Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#)
 - Universal Credit with a monthly net pay from your employer of less than £850 (this is based on your actual net pay, not the figure used by Universal Credit)
- (the qualifying benefits and allowances are subject to change)***

If you are aged 16-18 years-old and receive any of the above qualifying benefits in your own right, you can apply for free school meals.

Parents of children in Primary 6 / 7 who are in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment

We recently contacted all parents and carers of Primary 6 and 7 pupils to inform you that your child **may now be eligible for Free School Meals** if you receive the **Scottish Child Payment (SCP)**.

Even if you do not qualify under the standard income-based criteria, your child **may still be eligible** under this new scheme introduced by the Scottish Government. This expansion **currently applies only to Primary 6 and 7 pupils and does not currently extend to secondary school students**.

If your child is currently receiving Free School Meals in **Primary 7 under this scheme**, please note that this entitlement will **end on 4th July 2025** when they transition to secondary school.

If you have a child in **Primary 5 who will be moving to Primary 6 after the summer**, no action is required from you at this time. Social Security Scotland will shortly be informing us of all eligible pupils, so you won't need to submit an application. We will contact you directly once we have verified your entitlement.

For more information please visit: <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/assistance/free-school-meals/>

Further information on the new Scottish Child Payment from Social Security Scotland can also be found at www.mygov.scot/scottish-child-payment.

Yours sincerely



Anne-Marie Davies Macleod
Head of Resources and Performance
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