



SHARPS COPSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr M. Elsen – BEd (Hons) - NPQH

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Our ref: SCPN Current Year 2 - UFSM

26th June 2024

Dear Parents & Carers of Current Year 2 children

As your child(ren) are now about to transfer into year 3, I am writing to let you know that their entitlement to receive a Universal Free School Meal (UFSM), provided by the Government meal scheme will cease when they return to school in September.

We offer three choices of hot meals including a jacket potato and a vegetarian option, available on a daily basis at a cost of **£3.00** per day or **£15.00** per week. Payment **must** be made before 9am on the morning or in advance online via your Scopay account. If you are not yet registered, please contact the school office who will help you. Many parents and carers have said how easy and convenient this payment system is and have prepaid their accounts either on a monthly, weekly or termly basis – the account will only be deducted of money when a meal is actually ordered. Sharps Copse operates a '**No Debt**' policy, and this is available in hard copy format by request from the school office or for you to view, visiting our school website on www.sharpscopseprimary.co.uk

Of course if you prefer, please provide your child with a healthy packed lunch but be aware that we are **nut free**, so help us to support our children and staff who have **nut allergies** by not providing food that contain **nuts**.

Your child(ren) may still be eligible to receive a free school meal (FSM), and you can check this eligibility by applying online at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>

A child is eligible for free school meals if their parent or carer receives one or more of the following benefits:

- income support;
- income-based job seekers' allowance;
- income-related employment and support allowance;
- support under part vi of the immigration and asylum act 1999;
- the guaranteed element of state pension credit;
- child tax credit, provided you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). Parents and carers who are made redundant or start working less than 16 hours per week, may find their children are entitled to free school meals for a limited period;
- working tax credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for working tax credit;
- universal credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more that £7,400 as assessed by earnings from up to 3 of your most recent assessment periods).

No other benefits qualify for free school meals from Key Stage 2 (years 3, 4, 5 & 6) or for the pupil premium for Reception Year and Key Stage 1 (years 1 & 2).

To check your child's eligibility for pupil premium or continued free school meals (from Key Stage 2), use the online checking facility on the website quoted above.

To complete a check you will need the following information for yourself or the person you are checking on behalf of:

- your (or their name etc,) own name, date of birth and contact details;
- national insurance number (NI) or national asylum seekers number;
- child's name and date of birth;
- school your child is attending or will attend.

If you have any problems accessing this site, please let me know by emailing the adminoffice@sharpscopse.hants.sch.uk where I'll be more than happy to help you complete the check.

If you have any concerns or queries regarding the content of this letter, please don't hesitate to contact me at the school using the above telephone number.

Yours sincerely



Mrs V Richardson
Admin Officer