



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

NJL/JDN

25 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Important Update on Free School Meals – Action Required Before 28 March 2025

We want to remind you about an important change to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility rules coming into effect from 1 April 2025. Currently, children who qualify for FSM are protected for a set period, even if their family's circumstances change. However, from 1 April 2025, this transitional protection will end. This means that:

- Any child already receiving FSM before this date will continue to receive them until they finish their current phase of education (i.e. primary or secondary school).
- Any new applications from 1 April 2025 onwards will be subject to regular checks, and eligibility may change if financial circumstances improve.

What This Means for You

If your child already receives FSM, there is no change until they finish their current school phase. If your child is not currently receiving FSM but may be eligible, we strongly encourage you to apply before 28 March 2025. Any application approved before this date will secure FSM under the current protection rules.

What You Need to Do

- ✓ [Check if you are eligible](#) – FSM is available to families receiving certain benefits.
- ✓ Apply before 28 March 2025 to ensure your child's eligibility is protected.
- ✓ Submit your application online - [Apply for FSM](#).

If you have any questions or need help applying, please contact the Finance Office.

Yours faithfully

N. Loxley

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Finance Director

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