



Milton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 7JS

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Registered number: 7697023

Head Teacher: Mrs A Moise-Dixon BA (Hons), PGCE

November 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Free School Meals

In our experience not everyone who is entitled to free school meals feels able to apply for them. I would very much like to encourage everyone who qualifies to take advantage of this service. School meals at St Bernard's offer healthy nutritious food, hot and cold, prepared and cooked freshly every day. The daily free school meal allowance of £3.00 is enough to buy a full hot meal. Research has shown that students learn better and have more energy for their studies when they eat at regular intervals. Details of our menus and theme days can be found on the website.

You could be entitled to free school meals if you are on any 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 (if they not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income under £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may get for another 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Further details are available on the council websites.

If this is your first claim for free school meals, please complete an application via the local council website: Southend Borough Council using this [link](#) or if your Local Borough is different to Southend you can still claim and they will notify our LA of your entitlement. If you are unsure if you are entitled, please still complete the online form to see your result.

If assistance is needed or you want to seek confidential advice you can contact our Free School Meals Administrator who will be happy to help you.

Yours sincerely