

# Free School Meals

Children are entitled to free school meals if their parents receive Universal Credit Benefits. You can apply for free school meals through the Citizen Portal on the Devon County Council website:

[https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en?ReturnUrl=%2FCCSCitizenPortal\\_live](https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/en?ReturnUrl=%2FCCSCitizenPortal_live)

This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on **0345 155 1019**.

## **Your child is entitled to Free School Meals if you are in receipt of:**

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. However, parents and guardians are encouraged to apply for free school meals when they enrol their child in school, as this can help their child's school to attract additional 'pupil premium' funding to support learning.

From year 3 onwards, children whose parents are getting any of the following are entitled to free school meals:

- 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).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBSJA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190).
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right can also get free school meals.