



## Chellaston Academy

Integrity Care Excellence

July 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

### **Our Online Eligibility Checking Service**

Checking eligibility for Free School Meals benefits both the child/child's family and the school. Some families may be entitled to Free School Meals which could save parents over £10 per week, per child, which is nearly £900 per year for a parent with two children at school.

At Chellaston Academy we now use an online system that enables you to check your eligibility against the data held by the Department for Education's Eligibility Checking Services (ECS). As student's circumstances may change at any time, once you have entered your details, the system will regularly update, and we will have access to up-to-date information without every needing to contact you.

This service offers a number of benefits for parents/carers, including:

- A faster, simpler, and more convenient application process
- Delivering instant notification of entitlement
- Reducing application errors through computer assisted validation
- Removing the need for reapplication where eligibility continues
- Removing the need for face-to-face meetings as these will no longer be required for application
- Removing the need for parents having to bring in documentation to the Academy

**All you are required to do is follow the link below and enter details which include your name, date of birth and National Insurance Number:**

[www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/link2ict](http://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/link2ict)

Every application, even if you do not wish to claim the Free School Meal, could help the school secure additional funding called The Pupil Premium.

Pupil Premium is additional funding allocated to school for children from Reception age to Year 11 who are in care, adopted, have parents in the armed forces or have registered Free School Meals in the last six years (even if this was only for a very short period of time – perhaps when a parent was between jobs). As you can understand, this funding is extremely important and is used to benefit your child in many areas of school life.

Schools can choose how to spend their Pupil Premium. At Chellaston Academy we recognise that no single intervention will provide a complete solution and we use the Pupil Premium to provide a multi-layered approach.



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## **Pupil Premium Charter** **Chellaston Academy**

A student in the Pupil Premium cohort at Chellaston Academy can expect to benefit from some of the following:

- *Academic and Pastoral support*
- *Help with essential equipment and uniform*
- *Access extra Teaching Assistants who work with classes*
- *Numeracy and Literacy support*
- *One-to-one or small group support within the classroom*
- *A staff link to meet with once a half term*
- *Achievement breakfasts acknowledging academic progress and effort*
- *Help with funding of educational trips and visits*
- *Support with mental health and wellbeing*
- *Enrichment activities and external workshops*
- *General curriculum support*
- *Raising achievement projects*
- *Reduced group sizes*
- *Resources to boost learning and engagement, such as iPads, laptops or tablets*

**It is important to say that often, all of the children in a class will reap some benefit from how the school spends its Pupil Premium:** for example, if the money is used to fund an additional Teaching Assistant, then at time the whole class would benefit not just the students in the Pupil Premium cohort.

### **Additional Free Breakfast**

At Chellaston Academy we are running an initiative giving every child eligible for Free School Meals the option to select one breakfast item, for free, from our breakfast bar buffet. This is in addition to the Government's allocation for a free school lunch. The free school breakfast is available up to 11:20am and is purchased in the same way as the free school lunch.

If you have any queries regarding the Pupil Premium or the Online Eligibility Checking Service, please contact the Academy.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Giles  
Raising Standards Leader  
Specialist Leader of Education