



Head/Pennaeth: Paula Williams B.Sc (Hons) N.P.Q.H.

## **Continuation of Free School Meals Provision**

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope you are all keeping well. All parents of children who receive a free school meal will have received a letter from Flintshire County Council which explained the move to direct payments instead of a lunch delivery. This new system will start on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020.** Families in receipt of free school meals will also receive a leaflet reminding them of these changes within their food delivery this week. It is really important that parents act on the advice within the letter by the deadline of **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May** if they are to receive their payments on time. We have been told that there will be no facility for back dating payments if parents / carers have not met that deadline.

Families receiving free school meals will be provided with an enhanced FSM allowance of £3.90 per day for each child directly into their bank account each week, which can then be spent when food shopping.

We are also aware that there are likely to be a significant number of families who find themselves in the situation where they are eligible to claim free school meals for the first time during the outbreak. May I please remind you of the following information in order that you might assess whether you are entitled to an FSM payment:-

Free school meals will be provided for pupils whose parents receive Income Support, Income Based Jobseekers Allowance, Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income does not exceed £16,190, Guarantee element of State Pension Credit, Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit or Universal credit (If earned income is included in the assessment of UC it must be less than £616.66).

Parents /Carers newly eligible to FSM can apply online on the following Flintshire Local Authority webpage.

https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Education-Benefits.aspx

For those eligible students who attend the Castell Alun Hub, cold meals will be provided in the school building during Castell Alun's period of use as a 'Hub' school. Students may, of course, bring their lunch with them should they prefer.

Best wishes,

Paula Williams