



7<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Dear Parents and Carers

*Did you know ... just registering your child for Free School Meals means the school gets extra money?*

*Register now to make sure we don't miss out*

The Government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'.

**For every child registered Westfield School receives £900.**

With this money we can improve outcomes for our pupils. Please visit our school website [www.westfield.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.westfield.wigan.sch.uk) for a breakdown of Pupil Premium spend to date.

**Please register before 15th January 2014 to make sure your child and others in their class don't miss out.**

## How does it work?

1. First, check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list on the next page.
2. Registering is really quick and easy – if you think you qualify, you can register online at [www.wigan.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.wigan.gov.uk/benefits) or contact the Benefits Team on 01942 828644 who will help you to register.
3. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great – they will get the free meal (saving you more than £350 a year), extra benefits and the school gets £900 extra.
4. If you don't want your child to have the school meals they can continue as normal – as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets £900 extra.

*No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.*

Yours sincerely

Mr T. W. Sherriff  
**Headteacher**



## Do you qualify?

It is likely that you can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Pupils can also register for Free School Meals if they get any of these benefits themselves.

