



**FREE SCHOOL MEALS & SCHOOL UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FOR 2022-23 IS NOW OPEN ONLINE TO TAKE APPLICATIONS**

Current Eligible Families and New Applicants Parents/guardians who are currently in receipt of support for the 2021/22 school year should have already or will be receiving shortly a letter highlighting the need to apply for the 2022/23 school year and the process to do so. All parents/guardians (including new applicants) are now able to apply online for Free School Meals & School Uniform Allowance via the EA website. <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals>

It is important for all applicants to read and understand what supporting documentation is required for their application. Information about this can also be found on the EA website.

The Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance Helpdesk is available to assist parents and guardians who may have any queries. The Helpdesk operates Monday – Friday from 9am to 4.30pm and can be contacted via email: [mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk](mailto:mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk) . The telephone number which should be used for all enquiries is 028 9041 8044.

I would urge you to apply online as soon as possible as there was a huge back log of late applications received by the Education Authority at the end of last summer and many families who were entitled had to wait until October to have their application approved.

Please note that if you haven't received acceptance notification of Free School Meals by the start of the new school year you will need to either pay for your child's dinner via ParentPay or send in a packed lunch.

Yours sincerely,

S Sheeran

Principal