

SJW/JYMC/AR/218

11 January 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian

We know from our records that a number of parents do not claim for their entitlement of a Free School Meal for their child(ren).

Strange as it may seem, but, by not claiming for an entitlement the Academy loses money. We receive additional funds for each and every student who has made a successful application for a free school meal, which will provide more opportunities and enhancements to what we already deliver for your child. As an example, the new Pupil Premium that the Government has announced will be based on the number of students fulfilling the eligibility criteria for free school meals. In short, the more pupils eligible for Free School Meals, the more funding the Academy receives. *

I appreciate that some parents do not claim Free School Meals as they feel that they can 'cope' without the need, and/or that their child will be singled out by other students. With our Cashless Catering system your child will go through the queue system the same as every other child.

If you are unemployed or receive income support then your child is entitled to a free school meal. Please make a claim and use your entitlement – it is a pity to waste it.

In the first instance we are asking all parents to complete the form overleaf.

Could we ask that you please return to the Academy **no later than 20th January**. We appreciate that this is very tight deadline but require this information for our census. Rest assured, confidentiality will ALWAYS be observed.

It is extremely important that you complete and return the form and thank you for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully



Angela Robson
Finance Director

* It should be noted that the Academy will always aim to support those families in most need and will continue to do so as far as our own funding reserves are available. Parents may still write to the Academy for additional support if outside strict Free School Meals eligibility criteria. Parents supported in this way will not appear as eligible for Free School Meals on government census or monitoring data and would not entitle the child to continued support in the future.

As at January 2011 I am in receipt of: (Please tick relevant boxes)

Student Name:

Tutor Group:

Income Support

Jobseekers Allowance

Pension Credit (Guaranteed Credit)

Child Tax credit with a joint annual income not more than £16,190

Employment and Support Allowance

Support under part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Working Tax Credit

None of the above

Parent/Guardian signature

Date
