



## THE SAINTS FEDERATION

### Accessing Cost of Living Support

- Are you worried about the Cost of Living over the coming months?***
- Would you like to free up cash to help in other areas of your budget?***
- Would you like to have access to cost of living vouchers to support the shopping bill over the holidays?***

Your child may be able to get free school meals if **you** get any of the following:

- 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 guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
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Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Families with British National (Overseas) status and families with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) are entitled to apply for free school meals by completing the NRPF free school meals application. This can be found using the links below.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2023.

#### **Cost of Living Support**

**If your child qualifies for Free School Meals**, you will also qualify for Cost of Living Vouchers. The vouchers will be £15 per month, per child, with larger payments in longer school holiday periods. You'll also have access to free holiday activity programmes.

To access these additional payments, you must have applied for and Free School Meals, so even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and receives a meal in school within the Universal Free School Meal Programme, it is still worth applying for Free School Meal status to access the cost of living payments.

If you wish to know more or would like to apply, please visit:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-meals-and-milk>

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/campaigns/help-with-living-costs/cost-of-living-vouchers>

If you need help accessing help, come and visit the office staff in your child's school who will be happy to help you.