



Registered Address: Canford Heath Infant School, Learoyd Road, Poole, BH17 8PJ
Telephone: 01202 380015 Email: contact@teachpoole.com
Company Number: 09484306

Dear Parent/Carer

IMPORTANT INFORMATION Free School Meal Eligibility Changes September 2026

From September, more families will be able to claim a Free School Meal for their child. If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, but are above the low-income threshold of £7,400.00 per annum, you may be eligible to claim for Expanded Free School Meals, and we strongly encourage you to apply now, before the end of the summer term, if you want your child to receive a Free Hot School Meal in September.

[Free school meals | BCP.](#)

A reminder of why you need to re-apply

From the start of the 2026 to 2027 Academic Year, the Government plans to expand access to Free School Meals to all children and young people from households receiving Universal Credit, and there will be 2 categories of eligibility:

Eligible Targeted: this covers children in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less. These children will attract Pupil Premium and other disadvantage funding for their schools. Other education entitlements, such as the Holiday Activities and Food program (HAF) and the 'extended rights' element of School Transport Assistance will be based on the **Targeted** Free School Meals.

Eligible Expanded: this covers children who are in households receiving Universal Credit with annual household earnings exceeding £7,400. These children will be entitled to Free School Meals only.

Due to these changes, everyone will be required to reapply, from 1st June 2026. We strongly recommend applying online as early as possible to allow for your application to be processed in readiness for the new Academic Year.

If you are unable to apply online, you can obtain an application form from our child's school or by contacting BCP directly, calling 01202 123222, e-mailing fsm@bcpcouncil.gov.uk or post, Free School meals Team, Customer Services, BCP Council Civic Centre, Bournemouth, BH2 6DY.

Please ensure you complete paper application forms in full and in block capitals to avoid delays in processing.

Should you need any assistance or guidance, please contact the school office, or BCP Council direct.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Sara Easton
Trust Admin Manager



Trust Excellence Aspiration Collaboration Honesty

TEACH Trust Poole



Canford Heath Infant School

[canford_heath_infant_school](#)

Canford Heath Junior School

[canford_heath_junior_school](#)

Ad Astra Infant School

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