



The Federation of St Bede's & St Bernadette Catholic Schools

Federation Headteacher: Ewa Ostrynska

St Bede's Catholic Infant & Nursery School

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21st April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Correction to e-mail address in Monday's Welcome letter: the hyphen (-) was missing between 'st and bedes'

Please note that the St Bede's e-mail address is as follows: info@st-bedes.lambeth.sch.uk

Free School Meals (FSM) update:

There has been some confusion about the eligibility of children for FSM (a benefits based system) and Universal free school meals, which entitles every child from Reception to Year 2, to receive a 'free' school lunch paid for by the government and the school.

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

(Please note: the eligibility is **NOT** determined by schools)

- 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)
- Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals

For those families eligible for FSM vouchers during the lockdown period, we apologise on behalf of the issuing company (Edenred) for the delay in receiving your vouchers. Lambeth have been in touch with the company to voice their displeasure at the way Edenred have been handling the distribution of free school meal vouchers. We have kept all our families updated regarding this situation and are now hopeful that your vouchers will reach you without further delay.

Please do not hesitate to call us should you need any further support with anything.

Kind regards

Ewa Ostrynska

Federation Headteacher