

Dear Parent or Carer,

**Reminder: Apply for free healthy secondary school meals scheme now**

We offer free healthy secondary school meals.

[We recently announced we'll offer these free healthy school meals for another year.](#)

Bacon's College invites you to apply, if your household is eligible.

**Apply for free healthy secondary school meals by completing [this form](#)**

The scheme is for secondary school pupils:

- from families who get Universal Credit
- and who are not currently eligible for government benefits-related free school meals (FSM) if their household income is more than £7,400 per year

You need to show that your household gets or has recently applied for Universal Credit.

Find out more about this scheme at: [www.southwark.gov.uk/secondary-meals](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/secondary-meals)

**Important information about eligibility for free school meals**

*If you have not moved to Universal Credit*

You can apply for the scheme if you provide evidence of your upcoming move to Universal Credit (such as a letter) from a previous benefit.

These benefits include:

- income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Housing Benefit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit

Getting Southwark free healthy secondary school meals **will not** affect any government benefits you get or are entitled to.

## About free healthy secondary school meals

Question	Answer
How does the scheme work in school?	The daily lunch meal allowance will be allocated to each eligible pupil using a cashless payment system. Pupils will be informed how the system works by schools.
If my child already gets government benefits related free school meals (FSM), do I need to apply for this Southwark Council scheme too?	No. But do apply if your eligibility for government benefits related free school meals changes in the future.
My child doesn't live in Southwark, but does go to a Southwark school, can I apply for this Southwark Council scheme?	Yes.
Are Year 7 to Year 13 students included?	Yes.
Can my child spend their meal allowance at morning and afternoon break?	No, only at lunchtime
Can my child use this allowance for packed lunches?	No, the allowance can only be used for food provided by school at lunchtime.
Can my child use any unspent allowance on following days?	No, daily unspent allowance balances are not carried forward.
Will my child be identified as getting of free healthy secondary school meals?	No. All mainstream Southwark secondary schools use cashless payments, so your child will not be identifiable at the till or in the dining room.
What evidence of my household getting Universal Credit will I have to provide?	You'll need to provide the school with one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recent bank statement with Universal Credit deposit evidence</li> <li>• screenshot of current Universal Credit portal account</li> <li>• letter confirming family are supported by the Council due to</li> <li>• NRPF (No Recourse to Public Funds)</li> </ul>
How often will I need to give evidence that my household gets Universal Credit?	Once per academic year.
Will my child receive meal vouchers during the school holidays?	No.