



SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Federation of Abbey Infant and Junior School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may already be aware, changes have been made to the eligibility for free-school meals with effect from September 2026.

These changes mean that more children may be entitled to a free meal at school.

In addition to saving families money paying for meals or making packed lunches, it may also bring additional funding into school.

As it is simple to check if you are eligible, we encourage all of you to take a little time to visit the website and complete the form.

There are two types of benefits based on free school meals from September 2026.

Some families will meet the criteria for Targeted free school meals. This means they can receive a free meal, and the school may receive additional funding to support pupils.

Other families will meet the criteria for Expanded free school meals. This means they can receive a free meal, but this does not automatically bring additional school funding.

You do not need to decide which category applies. The check will confirm this.

To complete the check, please follow the link below:

<https://fsm.lgfl.net/>

If confirmed eligible, you will need to make an application to your local authority to start receiving the benefit. Sandwell and Birmingham local authority websites are shown below.

Sandwell: [https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/schools-education/free-school-meals#:~:text=Many%20families%20in%20Sandwell%20could,Working%20Tax%20Credit\)%20only%3B%20and](https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/schools-education/free-school-meals#:~:text=Many%20families%20in%20Sandwell%20could,Working%20Tax%20Credit)%20only%3B%20and)

Birmingham:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20014/schools_and_learning/687/free_school_meals

Many thanks,

Abbey Federation

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Abbey Junior School

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