



## Crowlands Primary School

London Road Romford Essex RM7 9EJ

Telephone 01708 743402 Fax: 01708 742175

Executive Head Teacher - Mrs H McClenaghan

Email: [office@crowlands.havering.sch.uk](mailto:office@crowlands.havering.sch.uk) Website: [www.crowlandsprimary.com](http://www.crowlandsprimary.com)



### Free School Meal Eligibility

*The Government has recently introduced two changes to pupils' entitlement to free school meals:*

- 1. The Government is beginning to implement Universal Credit across the country to support people on low incomes. This will happen gradually and will apply to new claimants before any changes are made to those on existing benefits. For the new claimants who are placed on Universal Credit rather than the current range of benefits, their child will be entitled to a free school meal if the household earnings are less than £7,400 per year excluding tax and any other benefits.*
- 2. Once eligibility has been agreed, including those children already receiving free school meals, children will continue to be entitled to a free school meal even if their parents or carers come off of benefit following a change in their personal circumstances if for example, they begin to work. This entitlement will last until the pupils finish the phase of education they are in (primary or secondary) as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. There is therefore no need to reapply for free school meals, if your child receives them now they will continue to do so until at least 2022.*
- 3. These changes do not affect infant free meals which will continue for children in reception, year 1 or year 2 classes. However, if you are currently in receipt of benefits or begin to claim before your child leaves year 2 we would encourage you to apply for free school meals as this will secure your child's entitlement until at least 2022 even if, by the time your child reaches year 3, your personal circumstances have changed.*

*Please apply on Havering Council's website, the link is provided below.*

[https://www.havering.gov.uk/info/20006/schools\\_and\\_education/431/free\\_school\\_meals\\_and\\_pupil\\_premium](https://www.havering.gov.uk/info/20006/schools_and_education/431/free_school_meals_and_pupil_premium)