

Our Ref: AMDM/SK  
Your Ref:

**Anne-Marie Davies Macleod**  
Interim Head of Resources & Performance

To: Parents/Carers

Education & Children's Services  
Woodhill House  
Westburn Road  
Aberdeen  
AB16 5GB

Tel: (01467) 534400

LP-3 ABERDEEN 3

5 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

## **FREE SCHOOL MEALS DURING INDUSTRIAL STRIKE ACTION**

I am writing to advise that all pupils currently entitled to **statutory free school meals** will receive a payment of £2.50 for each day of non-attendance due to the closure/partial closure of their school as a result of the ongoing industrial strike action. Please note – statutory free school meals are awarded to parents/carers based on their income circumstances. This payment does not apply to pupils in Primary 1 to 5 who are entitled to universal free school meals, which are not income based.

Eligible families already in receipt of statutory free school meals will automatically be paid; you do not have to apply for this payment. Payment will be made direct to your nominated bank account, usually within 3 working days following strike action.

**Families who are on a low income but not currently in receipt of free school meals can check entitlement by completing the following online form:**

[Check entitlement and apply for free school meals](#)

Children are eligible for free school meals if their parents (or carers) are in receipt of a qualifying benefit.

The current qualifying benefits and allowances are:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Any income related element of Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (CTC), but not Working Tax Credit (WTC), and have an income of less than £17,005
- Both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with an income of less than £7,920
- Support under Part VI of the [Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#)

- Universal Credit with a monthly net pay from your employer of less than £660 (this is based on your actual net pay, not the figure used by Universal Credit)  
*(the qualifying benefits and allowances are subject to change)*

If you are aged 16-18 years-old and receive any of the above qualifying benefits in your own right, you can apply for free school meals.

For more information please visit: <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/assistance/free-school-meals/>

Yours sincerely



**Anne-Marie Davies MacLeod**  
**Interim Head of Resources and Performance**  
**Education and Children's Services**