



April 2021

Dear Parent / Carers,

Free School Meals

We would like to make sure that every student who is eligible for Free school meals is able to receive them.

We recognise that for many families, financial circumstances may have recently changed and you may now be able to apply for Free School Meals for your children.

It is quick and easy to apply for Free School Meals:

- First, check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list of criteria below.
- Call Central Bedfordshire Council: **0300 300 8306**.
(This line is open from 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 4.30pm on Friday).

Please make sure you have the following to hand when you call:

- National Insurance numbers for you and your partner, along with your dates of birth and dates of birth for your children.
- Applications can be dealt with quickly and easily over the phone.

Students who are new to Holywell who previously had free school meals at a school outside Central Bedfordshire (other than Wootton Lower School) may also need to reapply to Central Bedfordshire to ensure that they continue to receive them. Please contact the School Office for advice if you are in this position.

If you are successful in your application your children may then be able to obtain for help with other expenses such as school uniform, school visits and music lessons as well as being able to have a Free School Meal every day.

Yours sincerely

H. Donnellan

Mrs H Donnellan

Assistant Head teacher

Current Criteria for Free School Meals

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- 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 guarantee 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 four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit



Headteacher: Mr MG Simpson MA, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Miss A Stewart - Deputy Headteacher Mr S Van Der Merwe - Assistant Headteacher: Mrs H Donnellan

Operated by Holywell Church of England Academy, Registered in England, Company Number 08224216