

21st September 2017

Re: Pupil Premium

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please help the school to access vital funding from the Government by claiming Free School Meals.

What is pupil Premium?

Introduced in 2011, the Pupil Premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children.

Is your family eligible?

Your child may be eligible for Free School Meals – and accordingly Pupil Premium – if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related employment and support allowance
- Support under part iv of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of the State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided that you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less
- Universal Credit

Why should I claim?

- No-one will know if you are entitled or not
- It will benefit all the children who attend Stamshaw Infant School
- Your child will not be treated any differently to how they are now
- Pupil Premium allows us, as a school, to claim extra funding from the government. This funding is used to buy in specialist teaching, resources and equipment for all of our children here at Stamshaw Infant School in order to make the most of their education. Details about this can be found on our website stamshawinfant.co.uk
- **The money received will go directly to paying for your child's education.**

But my child already gets free school meals.....

Children in infant schools get Universal Infant Free School Meals, which is another type of funding by the Government and completely separate to Pupil Premium.

My child brings sandwiches

If your child qualifies for Free School Meals, it's important that you tell us – even if they bring a packed lunch – as this enables us to claim Pupil Premium. Just because you claim does not mean your child has to have the meals.

How will the money be spent?

All schools can choose how to spend the money, here are some possible considerations:

- Small group support for children within the classroom
- Paying for additional help such as Speech and Language therapy or family therapy
- Investing in resources that boost children's learning, such as ipads for the classrooms

Please complete and return the claim form for Free School Meals before **Friday 29th September 2017** to give the children at Stamshaw Infant School the best education we can provide.

The application can also be made online through the Portsmouth City Council website www.portsmouth.gov.uk follow the link through to schools. Please see Mrs Glover in the office if you need any more details or help in completing the form.

Thank you for your continued co-operation and support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Cooper

Headteacher