

9th September 2025



**HARTLAND
HIGH SCHOOL**

Dear Hartland High Families

Exciting News about Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding

We are writing to you today with some important and positive news about Free School Meals (FSM) and a proposed change in government policy that has the potential to affect many of our families.

From **September 2026**, the UK government is changing the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals. This is a fantastic opportunity for our community, and we want to ensure every eligible family benefits.

Why is it so important to apply now, even if you're not sure you are eligible?

Applying for FSM is about much more than just a free meal. Every successful application unlocks vital **Pupil Premium funding** for our school. This funding is an additional sum of money provided by the government that we use to directly support your child's education and well-being. This can include

- Additional financial support for school uniform and equipment
- Providing extra support staff
- Funding school trips and educational activities
- Investing in new classroom resources and technology
- Supporting breakfast clubs, enrichments, homework support and after-school provisions

The Application Process

You only need to apply once. Each family will need to complete a simple, confidential application to check their eligibility and ensure our school receives this crucial funding.

Our online application system, **Online FSM**, makes this a quick and easy process. You can apply at any time by visiting:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-greenshawlearningtrust>

The process is confidential, and your child's FSM status will not be made public. We strongly encourage all families to apply, as you may be eligible under the current criteria as well.

Hartland High School, 125 Hartland Rd, Reading RG2 8AF.

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Currently eligible?

The protection for Free School Meals is still in place until August 2026, so if you are currently eligible this remains the case until the new guidelines come into effect next September.

The government has not announced the new indicators yet, so it is important to have registered on the same link to ensure we have the most up to date information for the system to check against the new criteria once it has been published.

We are here to help!

If you have any questions or need support with submitting an application, please do not hesitate to contact our free school meals expert Ms Godfrey. She can be reached in complete confidence by email, jgodrey@hartandhigh.co.uk or by calling the school on 0118 937 0200.

Thank you for your ongoing support. By working together, we can ensure our school community thrives.

Yours sincerely



Ms E Davey
Headteacher

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