



# St Albans Girls' School

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5 December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) and Free School Meals (FSM)**

We recognise that the changing economic climate is placing pressure on all families and for some, this is significant. In order to ensure that we continue to support all learners, I would like to bring to your attention the following schemes for families and students.

### **Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) and Free School Meals (FSM)**

This is funding given to schools for students who are registered for free school meals. At present the school receives £1,035 per student and this extends to all students who may have been eligible for and were in receipt of free school meals in the last six years. A sum like this can make a significant difference to the quality of provision a school is able to provide and subsequently contributes to the life chances of our students. Details of how we spend this money and support provided to students can be found [on the school website](#).

It is extremely important that we do all that we can to ensure that eligible students access their entitlement. The first step that families can take is to make sure they access their entitlement from the Government by registering their child for Free School Meals (FSM). A common misconception is that you must be on benefits to claim. Children are entitled to receive free school meals if they or their parents receive any of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit, provided they have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

If you would like to submit an application for free school meals you can do so directly with Hertfordshire County Council online by [clicking here](#). More information, including other methods for applying for free school meals, is available on the [school website](#).

### **No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)**

This Government fund provides support for families who do not meet the eligibility requirements for FSM but have an income that meets means they require financial support and meets one of the thresholds below:

- £22,700 for families outside of London with 1 child
- £26,300 for families outside of London with 2 or more children
- £31,200 for families within London with 1 child
- £34,800 for families within London with 2 or more children

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Whether or not a person will be considered within the London or the outside London threshold will be determined by the address of the family. This [map](#) shows the boroughs that form London.

### **NRPF Eligible groups**

These groups include, but may not be limited to children of:

- Zambrano carers
- families who have no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are also subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Chen carers
- families holding a [BN\(O\) passport](#)
- spousal visa holders
- work visa holders
- student visa holders
- those with no immigration status

If you meet the criteria above, please follow this link to [our website](#), complete the application form and provide evidence of your income for example a payslip or P60.

### **Families already in receipt of Free School Meals**

Please find attached information from ASPENS Catering about your child's daily FSM allowance.

### **Support directly from STAGS**

Our PTA organise and run a fantastic source of nearly new uniform from which we can offer quality uniform at a significantly reduced cost. Details of the next PTA sale will be shared via *Stagslink* so please continue to read this weekly. However, if you need support in the interim, please contact your child's Director of Learning.

We can also send **Trussell Trust Foodbank vouchers** to families in need. Please contact myself if you need Foodbank vouchers and include the number of people living in the household and their ages. My email address is [pjs@stags.herts.sch.uk](mailto:pjs@stags.herts.sch.uk).

The school receives additional funding for every student who is registered as receiving free school meals and this is used to support these students in a variety of ways in their education for example; school trips to enhance student learning, music tuition to provide an alternative learning perspective, clubs and interventions to support classroom learning and teaching, learning resources such as revision guides, textbooks and other equipment, and help with travel costs and uniform.

If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Key Stage, Director of Learning or myself.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Jarvis  
Assistant Headteacher