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HEADTEACHER Mr J Maher

Dear Parent/Carer

## The Government's Pupil Premium: Free School Meals and Increasing Funding in our School

Ashfield School receives funding in a variety of ways and from a variety of sources to support all our young people in school. The amount of funding allocated to our school is determined by many different factors, one of the factors which influences this funding is the number of pupils who are eligible **and** claim for Free School Meals.

In the Ashfield area approximately 33% of pupils are eligible **and** claim for Free School Meals. However, a significant number of pupils at Ashfield qualify for Free School Meals **but** their families do not claim for the money to which they are entitled. This may be because in Primary schools there is the universal provision of free school meals, this is not the case from Year 7 onwards.

When families who qualify for free school meals do not claim then both the family and school **miss out on additional funding** which would benefit many pupils in school. The extra money in this case would be in the region of an additional £1,000 per pupil.

If more of our parents claimed for Free School Meals then we would receive more funding to increase our provision for our pupils. ***This is an opportunity for parents to help increase the funding that comes into their child's school.***

When paying for food at school all pupils use our biometric cashless payment system. The benefit of all pupils using this system is that no pupil can be identified by others as being on Free School Meals.

I am writing to encourage anyone who thinks they may qualify for Free School Meals to make an application **now** by using the contact details below and asking for assistance with Free School Meals:

### To apply for free school meals for your child:

☑ register and apply online - register on the citizen portal to apply online

☑ Visit <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/school-dinners/free-school-meals/>, telephone 01623 433009 or 0300 500 8080 or email [parentpupil.north@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:parentpupil.north@nottsc.gov.uk).

Yours faithfully

Chris Woollard

Deputy Head Teacher

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