

Good News about Free School Meals

Central Bedfordshire has simplified the way to claim Free School Meals

From now on, if your circumstances remain the same, the parent or guardian meeting the qualifying criteria for Free School Meals for their children will only have to make one claim for the whole time the child attends any school in Central Bedfordshire. So if your child is already entitled to Free School Meals at Middle School you do not need to do anything to keep that eligibility at Manshead

If you believe that your children are newly entitled to Free School Meals because of your circumstances then you can apply to join the scheme by telephone. There is no application form to complete and no paperwork to send in. Simply call:

0300 300 8306

This line is open 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and
8.30am to 4.30pm Friday

Parents / Guardians will be written to once a year to remind them of their responsibility to report changes in their circumstances which may affect their FSM eligibility, but if your eligibility does not change you do not need to do anything to continue to qualify for Free School Meals

Free School Meals

You may qualify if you are in receipt of the following:-

- Income Support or;
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance or;
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income-Related) or;
- Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit; or
- National Asylum Seekers Support (NASS) or;
- Child Tax Credit (but not Working Tax Credit), and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190.

And your child attends a school full time in the Central Bedfordshire area.

You can apply by phone on 0300 300 8306
This line is open 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and
8.30am to 4.30pm 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.
- If you receive National Asylum Seekers Support you will need your NASS number.