

3rd December 2018

RE: Dining Club Choices for Spring Term 2019 – Years R - 2

Dear Parent,

Please find attached the exciting new Dining Club menu for the spring term, starting after the Christmas holidays.

We need you to choose what you would like your child to eat each day. In order for us to order the food for the start of the new term, please can you complete the dining club form by clicking [here](#). This will create your child's "default" choice for the whole two-week menu. Please could you do this by **9am on Wednesday 12th December**.

If you wish at any point during the term to update this default choice for any day or for the entire two-week period, you can do this by updating your choices via the online form. Any changes to your child's preferences need to be made by a **Sunday** evening, for the changes to apply the **week after** the forthcoming week. This allows us good time to update the records and place the food orders with our suppliers.

If we have not heard from you by the morning of Wednesday 12th December we will ask your child for their choices in class. If your child no longer wishes to be part of the Dining Club, and will be bringing a packed lunch to school from January, please let us know by emailing admin@wcps.education

We continue to listen to you and your child's feedback when putting new menus together and we are always seeking ways to improve the service. If you wish to know more or provide feedback please do contact me.

Please find below information about how to apply for Free School Meals (FSM) and the difference to FSM's and the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM).

We will be offering a free taster session of food from the new menu for after Christmas through the Dining Club on **Tuesday 11th December** from **2.30pm until 4.00pm in the school hall and Academy Café**. We will be providing information about the dining service and taking feedback from parents. I hope that you like the look of the spring term's menu and that your child will enjoy being part of the family dining service.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Bishop
Executive Headteacher

Free School Meals Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM)?

The UIFSM scheme was set up to offer the children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2, a healthy school lunch every day, free of charge.

What is the different between the UIFSM and Free School Meals?

UIFSM is available to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. 'Free School Meals' is linked to the Pupil Premium funding for every child who is registered. UIFSM is solely a free school meal and is not linked to the extra Pupil Premium funding, this is why we still ask parents to apply for free school meals if eligible.

Why should I apply for a Free School Meal if I already get UIFSM?

Although all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are automatically entitled to a free school meal, parents and guardians are encouraged to apply for free school meals when they enrol their child in school. This can help the school to receive additional 'pupil premium' funding to support learning across the school.

Please note that there are other benefits to parents in applying in for the funding such as reduced fees for certain school activities, uniforms and music lessons as these are based upon eligibility for FSM.

You must be in receipt of one of the below benefits to be eligible for a Free School Meal for your child/children.

- Income Support
- Employment & Support Allowance – Income related
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (NOT Contribution Based JSA)
- Child Tax Credit only (with a combined family income of less than £16,190 per annum as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) Please note, anyone receiving Working Tax Credit, regardless of income, will NOT qualify for FSMs.
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit
- National Asylum Seekers Support (NASS)
- Guaranteed Element of Pension Tax Credit

How do I apply for Free School Meals?

By following this link: [FSM eligibility](#), you can find out whether you are eligible to apply for this. If you are eligible, you can then apply through Devon County Council's Citizen Portal [here](#).

Across the country many parents who may be eligible for FSMs often do not apply as they are worried what others may think. I would like to assure you that this information is kept confidential and the children never know if they are in receipt of a FSM or who else is in receipt of a FSM.

