

# Elmhurst School

Making a Positive Difference to the Quality of Learning  
Headteacher ♦ Mrs Rachel Lee



12 March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

## ***Pupil Premium Grant Update***

Elmhurst School has a large number of economically disadvantaged pupils for whom the school receives the Pupil Premium of £1320 per child. We are expected to use Pupil Premium to help close the attainment gap for eligible children.

When compared to their peers, disadvantaged children on average:

- Have less home support for their learning
- Have weaker language and communication skills
- Are more likely to have significant difficulties in basic literacy and numeracy skills
- Experience more frequent behaviour difficulties
- Are less likely to believe they can control events that affect them

At Elmhurst School this funding has been allocated to support both individuals and groups of children both academically and with aspirational and social development activities.

Projects this year include:

- Additional Maths groups in Years 5 & 6
- Additional Phonics in Phase 2
- Additional Writing groups in Year 2
- Additional Learning Support Assistants
- 'Live' feedback in all year groups
- Online subscriptions for educational learning e.g. MyMaths, Bug Club, Lexia
- Data Tracking System – StatOnline
- Subsidised in school experiences e.g. Pantomime
- Daily lunch time sports
- Weekly music lessons for Years 3 and 5
- Subsidised Breakfast club
- Subsidised after-school Reading club
- Free after-school clubs three nights per week
- Year 6 Matrix Project
- Nurture Group for Reception and Year 1
- Forest Schools for Year 1
- Learning Mentor support
- Counselling
- Ongoing CPD for staff

## ***Is your child eligible for Pupil Premium funding? Here's what to do:***

- Apply for Free School Meals
- Applications for Free School Meals are processed by schools
- Contact the school office to apply for Free School Meals for your child

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**Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Pupils**

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in state-funded schools in England are eligible for Free School Meals. Please speak to us for more information. We may still ask you to complete a Free School Meals application form, this is because although your child is guaranteed free meals the school could still claim up to an extra £1320 Pupil Premium from central government if you are currently in receipt of one of the relevant benefits listed further down this page. This money can be used in your child's school to raise the attainment of pupils from lower income families and close the gap between them and their peers.

**Year 3 Upwards**

Under current regulations only children whose parents/guardians are in receipt of any of the following are entitled to Free School Meals:

- Income Support
- Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Child Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by HMRC, not in excess of £16,190
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Contribution-Based Job Seeker's Allowance does not qualify for Free School Meals
- Contribution-Based E&SA does not qualify for Free School Meals
- Families who are also entitled to Working Tax Credit do not qualify to claim Free School Meals regardless of income

**Temporary Qualification for Free School Meals**

You become eligible to claim Free School Meals if you receive a Working Tax Credit run-on: this is the payment received for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit. To qualify for Free School Meals after the four-week period expires you need to be in receipt of one of the other qualifying benefits listed above.

**Pupil Premium**

If your application for Free School Meals is successful, the school will receive an extra £1320 (Primary schools) of government funding even if your child does not want the meal. This additional funding will be used to help children from lower income families do their very best at school. If your family is registered for Free School Meals you may be eligible to claim other forms of assistance, for instance with home to school transport.

**Changes to your Benefit Entitlement**

Routine eligibility checks are carried out on all current claims throughout the year. Please contact us immediately if your benefit changes or ends. It is equally important that you tell us if your partner is now claiming the family's qualifying benefit for Free School Meals as we will need an application form from them.

***If you have any queries about free school meals, contact the Elmhurst School office.***

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Lee  
Headteacher

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