



# *Westvale Primary School*

## *"Striving for Excellence, Caring for All"*

Headteacher: Mr C Richardson

✉ Meverley Road, Kirkby, L32 0RQ

☎ (0151) 477 8470 Fax: (0151) 477 8471

📧 westvale@knowsley.gov.uk 🌐 www.westvaleprimary.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

10 July 2026

Starting in September 2026, the Government is widening access to Free School Meals (FSM). Pupils from households receiving Universal Credit will now be entitled to free school meals once their eligibility has been verified.

Going forward, benefits-related Free School Meals will be split into two distinct categories:

- **Targeted Free School Meals:** This applies to families receiving Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less, as well as those who meet other standard qualifying benefit criteria. This group remains linked to Pupil Premium funding and additional targeted support.
- **Expanded Free School Meals:** This new category covers pupils who do not qualify for Targeted Free School Meals, but who live in households receiving Universal Credit.

**Please note** that, even if your child currently receives Free School Meals or Universal Infant Free School Meals (Reception to Year 2), we strongly encourage you to submit a new application. Your child's FSM category may change, and this could affect the level of funding the school receives.

You can submit a new application via Knowsley Council's website using the following link:  
<https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/education-and-schools/financial-support/free-school-meals/apply-free-school-meals>

Please ensure your application is completed by **31 August 2026**.

**Important:** If you complete your eligibility, check before **31 August 2026** and your child qualifies, their free school meal entitlement will begin on **1 September 2026**.

Kind regards,

*C Richardson*

Mr C. Richardson  
Head Teacher

