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August 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

## **APPLICATION FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)**

Free school meals are available to any full-time student (aged 5-18) who is still at school and eligible, even if your child chooses not to take a meal. By receiving your correct entitlement for free school meals, Rooks Heath will also receive increased funding and ultimately improve the level of resources we can provide for your child's education. A substantial amount of this funding does not reach schools because not all parents who are eligible apply for free school meals for their child. As all students at the School now use the biometric system in the canteen, we can assure you that the whole process operates discreetly.

All new student admissions to Rooks Heath School will need to reapply for Free School Meals. Please complete the <u>application form</u> or visit <u>https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims</u> your details must match exactly word by word to details on your benefits' paperwork. Once your FSM application has been confirmed, you will need to allow 48 hours (1-2 school days) for your child's Rookery account to be updated.

Whilst Universal Credit is being rolled out and the phasing out of other income-bases benefits (expected to complete in March 2023), you now only need to complete this form once and it will last for the duration of your child's time at Rooks Heath until the end of Year 11.

We are committed to ensuring that the personal and sensitive information that we hold about you is protected and kept safe and secure, and we have measures in place to prevent the loss, misuse or alteration of your personal information. We will only use the information you provide to assess entitlement to free school meals.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any assistance completing this form.

Yours faithfully

Jacqueline Laverty Director of Business

