



8 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Subject: Free School Meals Expansion – Important Updates for September 2026

At Vyner's School, we are committed to ensuring that every student has the best possible environment in which to learn and thrive. As part of this commitment, I am writing to share significant updates regarding the Free School Meals scheme following the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026. We want to make sure that we are providing your child with the best education and support we can. Healthy school food can help pupils establish healthy habits for life and help to improve pupils' readiness to learn.

The Department for Education has introduced the most substantial shift in meal provision in recent years, which will take effect from the start of the 2026/27 academic year.

The most critical change is the expansion of Free School Meals for students in Years 7 to 13 to **all households in receipt of Universal Credit, regardless of your annual earnings**. Eligibility now falls into two categories:

- **Targeted FSM:** This covers pupils in households on Universal Credit with earnings of £7,400 or less.
- **Expanded FSM:** This is a new category for pupils in households on Universal Credit with earnings **above** £7,400. These students are now entitled to a free meal every day.

It is vital to note that the "transitional protections" in place since 2018, which allowed a pupil to keep their FSM status even if household income rose, will cease at the end of the 2025/26 academic year. From September 2026, all households must meet the specific eligibility criteria to continue receiving the provision.

As we must perform annual rechecks for all claimants, we kindly ask all families to ensure their details are up to date. Any pupil not re-verified between 1st June and 30th September 2026 may lose their funding status for the following cycle.

We understand that many families who were previously ineligible due to the income threshold will now be able to access this support. We strongly encourage you to apply before the summer holidays.

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Tel **01895 234342**

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www.vynersschool.org.uk

Mr Gary Mullings MEd
Headteacher



Vanguard Learning Trust

Registered in England and Wales Number 07796938

Registered address - Field End Junior School, Field End Road, Eastcote, Middlesex, HA4 9PQ

At Vyners, we use a cashless catering system. The daily allowance is automatically and privately credited to your child's account, and the payment process is identical to that of any other student. No one, neither staff nor peers, will be aware of who is receiving a free school meal.

In order to ensure that your child receives their Free School Meal, please complete this [Google form](#).

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact the School Office at office@vynersschool.org.uk. All enquiries will be handled with the utmost sensitivity and confidentiality.

Thank you for your continued support of Vyners School and for helping us ensure every student has access to the resources they need to succeed.

Yours faithfully,



Mr A Millard-Healy
Deputy Headteacher

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