

## Free School Meal Expansion

The Scottish Government have advised that from February universal free school meal provision applies to Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils whose parents are in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment.

For Highland Council pupils this entitlement will start after the February break.

As per the existing universal provision in P1-P5, this will be for free school meals only and you will not be entitled to any holiday payments or a clothing grant.

**Families already in receipt of income-based entitlement to free school meals will not need to reapply.**

If you are in receipt of Scottish Child Payment please apply for your free school meals now at

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools -  
\\_grants and benefits/10/free school meals and assistance with clothing](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools_-_grants_and_benefits/10/free_school_meals_and_assistance_with_clothing)

To qualify for a Scottish Child Payment, you must be in receipt of one of the following benefits.

- Universal Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Pension Credit
- Income Support
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

For further information on Scottish Child payments please visit <https://www.mygov.scot/scottish-child-payment/how-to-apply>

## Clothing Grant, Free School meals and Holiday Meals Payments

To qualify for free school meals, Holiday Meals Payment, and assistance with school clothing, your household must be in receipt of any one of the following:

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit (where their monthly earned income is not more than £796)
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, where their income is less than £19,995
- Both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit where their income is not more than £9,552
- Pension Credit Guaranteed Credit

### You can also apply if:

- you are 16 to 18 years old and receive any of these benefits in your own right
- you have no access to public funds, normally due to immigration status
- you are a family awaiting your first monthly Universal Credit award notice

The School Clothing Grant is £160 for Primary School children and £172 for High School children.

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