Shoreham Village School
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26th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Ref: Universal Infant Free School Meals: Reception, Year One & Year Two Pupils

On **Thursday 2nd October**, every maintained School in the UK will be submitting data in what is known as the "School Census". This provides all sorts of different information to the Department for Education and informs our future funding.

One element of funding is the "Universal Infant Free School Meal" funding. This is the lunch entitlement for each child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The total amount of funding the school receives to pay for these meals, will depend on how many children take up the free meal **this** Thursday. This means that a child who normally has a school lunch, but does not have one Thursday, will need to be funded directly from the school budget for the entire year costing £480.70, resulting in less money to spend on staffing, curriculum supplies and resources that directly impact teaching and learning.

Therefore, we will be asking our caterers to provide a meal for all eligible children **i.e. all children in Reception, Year One or Year Two unless you ask us not to**.

Please see attached for the Census day menu.

All meals should be booked via Scopay. Please note that the food description will not change on Scopay for this day but so please follow the options from the special menu attached. If for any reason you are unable to book a meal, please email the school office.

We strongly encourage your child to take up the offer of a school lunch on Thursday 2nd October.

If you are unsure, you are welcome to provide a packed lunch. We will closely monitor the situation to ensure that all children have an enjoyable meal and that food is not wasted.

Please do contact the school office should you have any queries.

Best wishes,

Gillian Lovatt-Young