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Dear Parents, Carers,

Pupil Premium (Free School Meals)

In April 2011, the Government launched a scheme called 'Pupil Premium' whereby families in receipt of certain state benefits could register their income which resulted in their child's school receiving additional funding and the pupil receiving a free school meal; this was referred to as Free School Meals (FSM). As many of you will be aware, the Government launched a new initiative from September 2014, which automatically entitled all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to free school meals and I am delighted that the majority of families at Shoreham School have benefitted from this scheme.

However, the use of the phrase 'Free School Meals' in association with both initiatives has caused confusion for schools and parents across the country. As a result, we are concerned that Shoreham Village School families whose children now automatically receive a free school meal because they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 have not registered for Pupil Premium (Free School Meals) as they are not aware of the benefits this has for the school or their child. Specifically, the advantages are that the child will continue to receive a free school meal when they move into Year 3 and beyond, their child is entitled to receive free milk on a daily basis and the school will receive some all-important additional funding.

It is vitally important therefore that ALL parents in receipt of state benefits log onto <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals> to register for the Pupil Premium 'Free School Meals' scheme. There is a quick and easy registration process and if you are eligible for the school to receive a Pupil Premium grant, you will be advised.

If you have any queries about this process or would like help to log on and complete the forms, please contact the School Office.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Gillian Lovatt-Young
Headteacher

