



Dear Parents/Carers,

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

## COVID-19

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. Year 11 students should expect to receive an email shortly regarding Exam Results Days in August.

### Free School Meals (FSM)

Due to COVID-19, we understand that many families may have had a change in their personal circumstances, so we would like to remind everyone of the criteria for free school meal eligibility. Please make an application if you think you meet the criteria shown below. **If your child already has a current FSM claim, you do not need to resubmit an application.**

If you are in receipt of the following support payments, your child will be entitled to receive free school meals:

- Universal Credit – from 1 April 2018 provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods
- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA)
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right are also allowed to receive free school meals.

To apply for FSM, please complete the online application form available under the 'How to apply' section on this link: <https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>. Plymouth City Council will process all applications and answer any queries regarding eligibility. If you have any queries, please contact them on: [fsm@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:fsm@plymouth.gov.uk) or 01752 307410.

### Government Update

Yesterday the government released guidance for the return to school for all students from September. We will carefully consider all guidance provided, our risk assessments and opening action plans and write to you in due course to confirm our plans. We know you will be keen to receive this information as soon as possible, but please allow us the time to plan and to consider all possible risks and how to mitigate them to ensure that we can safely welcome back all of our students from September whilst following this new guidance.

The government have updated the guidance on what parents and carers need to know about schools during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

*KM White*

Mrs K White  
Acting Headteacher

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