

# Free School Meals and Milk



This easy read document tells you about free school meals and free milk in Nottinghamshire.



We want to make sure that all children who qualify for free school meals have them.



Before your child can be given free school meals, you must apply to the council who will check if they qualify.



We use the Department for Education's checking system which tells us if your child is able to have free school meals.



If you receive any of these benefits you will be able to have free meals:

- Universal Credit, if you have an annual income of less than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after the person stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit)



If you think you should be getting any of these benefits tell us and we can do an assessment.

You can apply for free school meals:



- [Online](#)
- By phoning us on 0300 500 8080
- [By filling in an application form.](#)



To apply you will need to register.

To register to will need to tell us:



- Your National Insurance Number  
or National Asylum Support Reference  
Number



- Your last name



- Your date of birth



- The child's full details including their date of  
birth and the school they go to.

## 2 Working days



Once your application has been agreed by the council, your child will start getting free meal within 2 days.



If your child goes to a school that does not use the council's assessment, you should ask the school how to apply for free school meals.



Children under 5 in school or daycare, and children who have free school meals are also able to get free milk.



You need to [register](#) your child to get free milk.



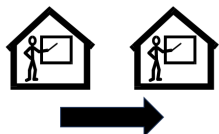
All the other children in primary schools and special schools have milk that is partly paid for so they do not pay the full cost of their milk.



You should ask your child's school how they provide milk.



Universal Infant School Meals (UIFSM) funding means that all state schools can give free school meals to children in reception and years 1 and 2.



If your child is moving schools and both the schools use our assessment service, you do not need to apply for free school meals again.



Only children who go to state schools will be able to have free school meals.



Children from households with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) might be able to have free school meals.



People with NRPF status can't apply for free school meals online. They must apply by phoning 0300 500 80 80.



Children being educated at home, known as receiving “Education Otherwise Than at School” (EOTAS) may be given different support if they would be entitled to free meals in a school setting.



If you are not entitled to free school meals, you will need to pay. We have a [separate easy read document](#) about this.

## Links in this document

### **Apply online for free school meals**

[notts.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/SynergyWeb/FSM.aspx](https://notts.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/SynergyWeb/FSM.aspx)

### **Printed application form for free school meals**

[nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2902138/freeschoolmealsapplicationform.pdf](https://nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2902138/freeschoolmealsapplicationform.pdf)

### **Register for free milk**

[coolmilk.com](https://coolmilk.com)

### **Easy Read document – paying for school meals**

[nottinghamshire.gov.uk/global-content/easy-read-library/paying-for-school-meals-and-drinks](https://nottinghamshire.gov.uk/global-content/easy-read-library/paying-for-school-meals-and-drinks)

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For plain English web page version of this information, go to:

[Costs and cashless payment systems for school meals | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

[nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/costs-and-cashless-payments](https://nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/costs-and-cashless-payments)

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