

# St. Michael's Primary School, Killean

*Principal:*  
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19<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

## Free School Meals/School Uniform/Physical Education Uniform Allowance 2024-25

I would like to provide you with an update on the 2023/24 application process for Free School Meals and School Uniform/Physical Education Clothing Allowance. I would strongly encourage all potential applicants to apply for the support available before 26 July to ensure all is in place for the new school year in September 2024.

Parents/guardians who are currently in receipt of the following benefits, will need to upload a Proof of Benefit Letter, along with their application.

Income Support; Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance; Income Related Employment and Support Allowance; Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit. Applicants can request this by visiting this website.

<https://secure.dwp.gov.uk/get-a-proof-of-benefit-letter/>

An application cannot be processed until the EA receives all supporting documentation for the applicant.

Parents/Guardians whose child has a Statement of Special Educational Needs (Stage 5) and requires a special diet should contact the Meals and Uniform Section for a paper application form if they wish to apply under the special diet criterion.

The Free Schools Meals and Uniform Allowance Helpdesk is available to assist parents and guardians who may have any queries. The Helpdesk operates Monday - Friday from 9am to 4.30pm and can be contacted via email: [mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk](mailto:mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk). The telephone number which should be used for all enquiries is 028 9041 8044. Please click the link below to apply.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

I would strongly advise everyone to apply early. You **MUST** reapply every year and if your child was in receipt of support last year does not mean it will roll onto next year. If you are unsure if you would meet the criteria, please apply anyway. If your child is entitled to support but does not want dinners, please apply anyway as it is of great financial benefit to the school to help support teaching and learning moving forward. If you have any more queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Mr C McAteer