



HEADTEACHER: Mrs E Anderson

Dear Parent/Carer,

Pupil Premium & Free School Meals – Year 7 September 2026

As your child prepares to move up to secondary school, we would like to share some important information regarding Free School Meals.

If your child is currently receiving Free School Meals at primary school, **please be aware that you will need to re-apply when they move up to secondary school.** Entitlement does not automatically transfer between schools, even if your family circumstances have not changed.

We will contact you again before September to confirm the Free School Meals application process. This will include the relevant application link, eligibility criteria and details of the support available should you need help completing the application. At present, Watling Academy is awaiting further guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) regarding changes to eligibility linked to Universal Credit:

‘From the start of the 2026/27 school year, the Department for Education will extend entitlement to free school meals to include all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit. It is our intention to end transitional protections alongside this change in threshold, with eligibility for all pupils reverting to whether they meet the eligibility criteria, regardless of whether they were previously protected. Further guidance will be issued ahead of September 2026.’

As soon as further information is made available, we will share this with you to ensure you have clear guidance on next steps.

Kind Regards,

Mrs S Carrington

Admissions & Transition Manager
admissions@watling.academy

Respect / Responsibility / Kindness



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