



Minet Junior School Newsletter

Autumn Term: 14th September 2026

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A Parent's Guide to Pupil Premium and School Meals

At Minet Junior School, we want every child to have the same opportunities to learn, grow and succeed. The **Pupil Premium** is a special government grant that helps us do exactly that. If your child qualifies for a "Targeted" registration, our school receives extra money to boost their learning, confidence and wellbeing.

The Three Tiers of School Meals

Following national updates to benefits-related school lunches, there are now distinct tiers of funding. It is vital to understand which category your family fits into:

- 1. The London Mayor's Universal Free School Meals:** Thanks to the Mayor of London, **every single junior school child automatically receives a free hot lunch** every day. This happens automatically and saves families hundreds of pounds a year.
- 2. Expanded Free School Meals (Free Meals Only):** Your family receives **Universal Credit**, and your household income is **over £7,400 a year**. Your child is nationally entitled to a free meal, but this *does not* trigger extra Pupil Premium money or holiday club access for the school.
- 3. Targeted Free School Meals (Brings Funding to the School + HAF Holiday Clubs):** Your family receives Universal Credit, and your net annual household income is **£7,400 or less** (before benefits). This also includes families on Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit), or those with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF). **Only this group unlocks Pupil Premium funding for the school.**

Why you must register either way: Even if you fall into the Expanded group, registering helps the national government cover the cost of your child's lunch rather than the London Mayor's fund, which protects our school budget.

How we Spend Pupil Premium Money

Because Pupil Premium funding is bundled together, it allows us to invest heavily in your child's environment. We use it for:

- **Targeted Support:** Extra teaching assistants,
- **Subsidies:** Helping parents with the cost of after-school clubs and educational school trips.
- **Wellbeing:** Providing pastoral care, mentoring and emotional support.



How to Apply in Hillingdon

Applying is fast, entirely confidential and will not change how your child receives their daily lunch.

- 1. Check or Apply Directly:** In the Borough of Hillingdon, applications are processed directly through the school.
- 2. What we need:** Please come into the school office with your **National Insurance Number**, date of birth, and full legal name.
- 3. Use the Online Checker:** You can also run a quick, secure check yourself at the [LGfL Free School Meals Checker](#) to see if you qualify instantly.

If you have any questions or need help setting up your ParentPay account, please email help@minetjunior.org.uk or pop into the school office and speak to Mrs Dobson or Miss Short in complete confidence.



WE HAVE
ACHIEVED



