



Shacklewell Primary School
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Executive Headteacher: Ms Nicole Reid
Headteacher: Mr Rory McGrath

Wednesday 7th September 2023

Dear families,

I hope that you and your family have had a safe, healthy and restful summer. The new school year has begun and we are delighted to see all pupils back in class. I am sure your child is full of excitement at the prospect of starting a new year group but understandably a little nervous too. I want to assure you that we will do everything we can to ensure that all our children feel safe, happy and can enjoy the great year we have in store for them.

As you are aware, the Mayor of London is ensuring all primary school children who attend state schools in London receive a free school meal for the full academic year, starting this September. This means that all children in our schools will be entitled to free nutritious school meals. As you may be aware, we already offer universal free school meals and this will continue for Reception - Year 2. There will be no changes to how your child receives their school lunch. Those parents/carers whose children already qualify for free school meals under the Government's existing offer must continue to apply for free school meals as before. Any changes to pupil meal patterns will need to be reported to the office staff termly as we need to be able to manage food orders effectively.

Your child will receive their free school meals automatically, but it's vitally important that you still complete your school registration form in case your child is eligible for extra funding for the school from the Government, worth £1,300 per year. That's extra money to spend on enrichment activities, teacher development, and targeted support for the children that need it most. You may also be entitled to other benefits like food vouchers during the holidays. There is more information about registration here: <https://education.hackney.gov.uk>. Only families who qualify for free school meals will be entitled to the holiday vouchers and therefore it is essential that you apply for this funding.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will be happy to help with any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Nicole Reid

Executive Headteacher