

Appendix 4: Universal Infant Free School Meals Finance Briefing Note 2014 - 2015

Updated June 2014 with the conditions of grant from the department of education

1. To be funded at £2.30 for each meal taken (newly eligible pupils only)
2. Initial funding provision will be based on an estimate of take up. Department for Education (DfE) will assume 87% take up for newly eligible pupils - these pupils will take 190 meals in the academic school year.

Example:

300 pupils eligible for free school meals (all pupils in Year R/1/2)
100 currently in receipt of free school meals
200 newly eligible x 87% = 174 eligible pupils
174 x £2.30 x 190 meals = provisional funding allocation of £76,038

3. **14/15 only** - Small schools (less than 150 pupils as at the January 2014 census) receive transitional funding. In Portsmouth this will only apply to a few schools. This can be spent as the school chooses.
4. Schools will continue to fund meals for pupils currently eligible for free school meals under current procedures, in the same way as they do now.
5. Each newly eligible pupil in Years R, 1 and 2 as per the January census will receive £380.19 per pupil A payment will be allocated in June equating to 7/12ths of each schools provisional main allocation plus small school allowance (as above).
6. There will be a new indicator on the school census return from October 14, to enable schools to indicate how many newly eligible pupils they have that actually taken up free school meals.
7. The final allocation will be paid later in Spring 2015, based on **actual** meal take up data derived from the average of the October 14 and January 15 census. The payment in the Summer term will be adjusted based on the data from these 2 census dates. The adjustment calculation is as follows:

$$\frac{(\text{Oct 14 census} + \text{Jan 15 census}) - (\text{FSM Oct 14} + \text{FSM Jan 15})}{2} \times 190 \text{ meals} \times £2.30 = \text{Final Allocation}$$

The total Final Allocation will be paid minus the amount of the provisional allocation will paid in the Spring of 2015.

- If the take up is higher, this will be adjusted upwards. This payment will be made in Spring 15.

- If the Final Allocation is lower than the provisional allocation paid in June 14, the adjustment for the balance will be taken from first payment in the universal infant free school meals grant paid for the academic year 2015-16.
8. Pupil Premium Funding is based on January 2014 census and schools still need to know if a family receives benefits to qualify for £1,300 payment per pupil.

Academy conversions and school closures

9. The grant will not be allocated by the Council to academies that were open on or by 1 April 2014. This will be paid by the Education Funding Agency.
10. Portsmouth City Council will allocate the grant to schools that converted to academy status after 1 April 2014.
11. Schools federated during the financial year beginning 1 April 2013 will be allocated the grant as if they were not federated. In the case of a school closing before 1 September 2014, the LA will not allocate the grant to the school.
12. In the case of a school which closes during the period between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015 the grant will be allocated for the proportion of the period that the school is open.
13. If a school opens between 1 September 14 and 31 August 2015 and takes in the pupils from 2 or more closing schools, the school will be paid the grant equal to the total which these schools would have received if they had stayed open proportionate to the period of 1 September to 31 March for which the school is open. This will cover any amalgamating schools in the City
14. In the case of schools which have pupils transferring from a closing school during the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, the City Council will allocate the grant that would have been paid to the closing school had it stayed open.
15. For schools changing to an all through school, they will not receive the initial payment in June 2014, but will receive the full value of the final allocation in Spring 2015.

Further information

Further information can be found at:

Conditions of grant and grant calculator

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/universal-infant-free-school-meals-conditions-of-grant>