

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The way in which certain elements of our school budget are calculated is changing and it is absolutely essential that any girl entitled to Free School Meals is registered for them, *even if you chose for your daughter not to have a school dinner*. Any additional money received through this budget heading allows us to improve the provisions and resources available for her.

You may be slightly worried about the cost of sending your daughter to this school. If you are a family in receipt of one of the benefits shown below there are Governors' grants which may help you. We assure you that the provision of Governors' grants is handled with discretion and sensitivity. Teachers and other children are unaware of who pays and who receives free meals.

- Income Support Allowance (ISA)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IB JSA);
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by the Inland Revenue that does not exceed £16,190 from 06/04/2010 (new income figure will become effective on 06.04.11).
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit.

If you have any queries about benefits, please telephone the school on 0121 554 2342 to speak to Mrs Patel in confidence and/or to arrange an appointment to see her to bring in your documents.

Free Meals

The school operates a swipe card system in the school canteen and your daughter would be supplied with a card which would allow her to spend **up to £2.05** per day on a proper meal (from -1/09/2011) at no cost to yourself. Unfortunately, money is unable to be carried over from day to day. Free meal swipe cards look exactly the same as cards that have been purchased. You will need to bring into School either the letter or notice which details your entitlement or your booklet **each term**, so that the Admin Assistant can take a photocopy for our records. Your daughter will then be issued with a swipe card when she starts school in September.

Uniform Grant

This is an annual grant of **£94.00** (from 01/09/2010) towards school uniform. The grant is paid directly to the uniform shop who will deduct it from your bill. You will need to purchase the uniform and submit receipts to Admin Assistant by 30th September for the full amount. You will need to bring in to School either the letter or notice which details your entitlement or your booklet so that the Admin Assistant can take a photocopy for our records.

Bus Pass Grant

This is a re-imbusement of a termly travel pass for those pupils living **more than two miles from school in a direct line**. Your daughter will need to bring into School the letter or notice which details your entitlement or your booklet at the beginning of **each term**. The Admin Assistant will take a photocopy for our records. You will also need to bring in your receipt for a WM Travel bus pass or for the Green Bus Company and you will need to tick the eligible for free school meals box on their application form. In both cases these will be refunded at the beginning of term.

Instrumental Music Lessons

The School Finance Assistant will be given the names of those taking lessons in school by the Head of Instrumental Music. Grants towards the cost of music lessons will be given to pupils in accordance with the evidence of entitlement already supplied.

If you are not currently in receipt of these benefits, but your circumstances change in the future, please do not hesitate to contact us.