INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

CARR JUNIOR SCHOOL
Aim High, Shine Bright

Pupil Premium and Carr Offer Information for Families

At Carr Junior School, we want every child to be able to take part fully in school life. If your household receives Universal Credit or certain other benefits, your child may be entitled to free school meals and additional support through the Carr Offer.

Many working families qualify without realising it. Checking your eligibility only takes a few minutes and is completely confidential.

Support your child could receive

- Free school meals
- Help with school uniform, a free water bottle and free daily milk
- Free participation in some extracurricular clubs
- Support towards some school trips, enrichment activities and residential visits
- Access to FEAST holiday activities and food

What Pupil Premium means

Pupil Premium is a government programme designed to improve the educational opportunities and outcomes of eligible children. It is not a payment made directly to parents.

At Carr Junior School, Pupil Premium helps us provide support with:

- Learning and academic progress
- Attendance, emotional wellbeing and pastoral support
- Enrichment activities and wider opportunities
- Removing financial barriers to school life

Targeted and Expanded Free School Meals

There are two categories of benefits-related free school meals. The North Yorkshire Council eligibility checker will confirm which category applies to your child.

	Targeted Free School Meals	Expanded Free School Meals
Universal Credit earnings	Annual net earnings of £7,400 or less	Annual net earnings of more than £7,400
Free school meals	Yes	Yes
Pupil Premium eligibility	Yes	No new eligibility
The Carr Offer	Yes	No
FEAST holiday activities and food	Yes	No

The £7,400 threshold refers to earnings after tax and does not include Universal Credit or other benefit payments.

Other ways to qualify for Targeted Free School Meals

Your child may also qualify if your household receives:

- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Some families with no recourse to public funds may also qualify. For families living outside London, the annual household income thresholds are £22,700 for families with one child and £26,300 for families with two or more children. Families must also have no more than £16,000 in savings or capital.

Please contact the school office if you would like help checking whether your family may qualify.

The Carr Offer

Children who are currently eligible for Targeted Free School Meals can access additional support through the Carr Offer.

- A school jumper or cardigan
- One white polo shirt
- A free school water bottle
- Free milk every day at school
- Free participation in some school extracurricular clubs
- Support towards the cost of some school trips and curriculum enrichment activities
- Support towards the cost of residential visits, agreed with school

Parents should continue to book clubs, trips and activities through Arbor in the usual way. Any support provided through the Carr Offer will then be applied by school.

If your child does not want school meals

Please still complete an eligibility check. Your child does not have to take a school meal every day. They can continue to bring a packed lunch while accessing the additional support available through Targeted Free School Meals and the Carr Offer.

You should also check if:

- You are working
- Your child has never received free school meals
- You applied previously but were not eligible
- You think you may only qualify for a short period
- Your circumstances have recently changed

Confidentiality

Eligibility checks and applications are treated confidentially. Other pupils and families will not know who receives free school meals, Pupil Premium support or the Carr Offer. All children are offered the same school meals, and support is provided sensitively.

How to check your eligibility

Apply online through North Yorkshire Council:
www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals

You will need your:

- National Insurance number
- National Asylum Support Service number

You will receive an initial decision straight away. If your child is eligible, North Yorkshire Council will process the application and notify Carr Junior School.

Please continue paying for school meals until school confirms that your application has been processed. Free school meal claims cannot be backdated. **If your child is already registered for free school meals,** you do not need to apply again.

If you need help completing the check, please contact the school office.

Not sure whether you qualify? Please check. Many working families are eligible, and completing the check could unlock valuable support and opportunities for your child.