



## Free School Meals

**What are free school meals?** They are school dinners for children between the ages of 4 and 16 who attend full time school (but not private schools). They may also be awarded to some children outside this age range who attend full time school or nursery.

**Do I qualify?** To qualify you or your partner must be getting one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit only (but no award of Working Tax Credit) and have an annual income, as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190.
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 any earned income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

**What evidence is required & how do I apply?** You need to provide an up to date document showing that you are getting one of the above benefits. You do not need to make a separate claim if you are already getting or have applied for Housing Benefit / Council Tax Support. We will use the information and evidence you have already provided to confirm your entitlement,

If you would like to make a claim this can be done by;

- Telephoning 01204 331590 or
- Visit our website [www.bolton.gov.uk](http://www.bolton.gov.uk) (search for free school meals)

**Bolton**  
**Council**