

# Universal Free School Meals: Registration Form Academic Year: 2026/2027

We write to you on behalf of your child’s school as you have a child(ren) who will be starting in Reception in September 2026 and will be entitled to receive a universal free school meal at no cost to you.

From September 2026, choosing a school lunch for your child(ren) will help save you up to £400 per year per child, if you take up the offer. Meat and vegetarian options are available every day, and we can consider other dietary requirements where a menu is agreed in advance. Please discuss this with your school.

This is a popular offer in Sandwell. To help us plan and ensure that schools can claim the correct level of funding for your child and help us plan for the number of children having a school lunch from September 2026, please provide the details requested in the form and return to your school as soon as possible.

We will use this information to check for eligibility to claim additional grant money from central government. It will be used for no other purposes and will remain confidential to us. There may also be other benefits for your child offered by your school, e.g. free trips etc. Please ask your school.

**Education Benefits Team - Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Section 1: About your child(ren) entering Reception Year in September 2026  
(Please complete in BLACK ink and CAPITAL LETTERS using your child(ren’s) legal names)**

First name of Child 1	Surname of Child 1

Date of birth (Child 1)	School Child 1 Attending

First name of Child 2	Surname of Child 2

Date of birth (Child 2)	School Child 2 Attending

Do you have other children of school age attending a Sandwell school? Yes  No

**Section 2: Children whose parent/legal guardian receive any of the following are entitled to universal free school meals additional funding**

**Universal Credit** Please tick ✓

From September 2026 - Any household receiving Universal Credit, regardless of earnings, will be eligible for benefit-related free school meals.

**If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, please indicate if your net earned income is below £616 per month under the Universal Credit allowance, you receive?** Yes  No

You can find this towards the end of the statement), where it says, “What we take off (deductions)”, it will say, the total take-home pay for (your name(s) this period is £....

**Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 Only**

**Pension Credit – Guaranteed Element Only**

