What is the difference between Free School Meals and Universal Infant Free School Meals?

In September 2015 the government introduced the **Universal Infant Free School Meals** initiative that ensures that any child in the year groups **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2**, can get a nutritious and healthy school meal at no cost to the parents. It is available to all parents regardless of income or personal circumstances. Some children in these year groups may also qualify for benefit related Free School Meals.

**Free School Meals**

Children in year groups **3, 4, 5 and 6** have to pay for school meals. However, your child may be able to get free school meals if you are in receipt of certain qualifying benefits. You do not need to apply for free school meals. With your permission we will do that for you. All the information we need to make an application via our online system is on your child’s admission form. By making an application on your behalf, when your child joins our school, both you and the school can be sure that if your circumstances change or benefit rules change in the future we will always have the most up to date information. This service will remain in place until your child leaves Village Primary Academy.

**Free School Meal Vouchers**

Only those children who receive benefit related free school meals will qualify to receive the Government funded vouchers.

Please make sure that you keep the school office updated if you change your address or with any changes to your name as this may affect future eligibility.