Shoreditch Park
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Headteacher: Penny Smith
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Inclusion Manager: Claire Keady
School Business Leader: Georgia Caton

29th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Free school meals and Pupil Premium: please check whether you are eligible

Every child at Shoreditch Park can receive a free school lunch through the London scheme. However, we still ask families who may be eligible for benefits-based free school meals to apply. Registering helps us identify children who qualify for Pupil Premium, additional funding that we use to support children's learning and wider school experience.

The rules changed in September 2026. If your family receives Universal Credit, your child is now eligible for benefits-based free school meals regardless of your earnings. Families receiving certain other benefits may also qualify. Please apply even if your child already has a free lunch at school.

For some families, registering will also bring Pupil Premium funding to Shoreditch Park. We can use this funding for support such as learning resources, small group teaching and enrichment activities. Universal Credit eligibility alone does not guarantee Pupil Premium funding; this depends on your circumstances, which will be checked as part of the application.

If you have not applied before, please check your eligibility and apply through Hackney Education. If you have applied previously but have not received an update following Hackney's eligibility recheck, please contact Hackney's Pupil Benefits team or the school office.

Families with no recourse to public funds may also be eligible. Please speak to the school office for help with the appropriate application route.

If you think your family may qualify, please apply as soon as you can. The school office is available to support applications every day at 9am, 3.45pm and 5.15pm.

Yours sincerely,

Shoreditch Park Primary School