



**BLACKWATER  
INTEGRATED COLLEGE**

*Building · Inspiring · Caring*

CIRCULAR 2022-23 TL006

To: Parents/Guardians  
Cc: Bursar

August 2022

### **Free School Meal Entitlement**

To date we have not received notification of all students that we believe are eligible for free school meals based on last years eligibility. This information comes directly from the Education Authority and we would hope that later today or tomorrow we will receive an updated list. As a parent/guardian you may have already received an email confirming that your child will get free school meals and there will be no issue if this is the case in providing this provision. Those students who we have not yet received notification for we are unable to provide free school meals until the Education Authority provide us with the correct details.

We now find ourselves in a very difficult situation where we know children should be accessing Free School Meals but are not allowed to provide the meals unless as a school we pay for them ourselves. I do not want any students not receiving a meal during the school day if they are eligible and as a result the College will fund those meals for students who have not yet got their entitlement through on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. It is very important students have a good start to the new year and we do not want a situation where students are standing without food on their first day back.

This is not possible to do going forward and next week either packed lunch or money to purchase food will need to be provided for any student who is still awaiting confirmation from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September. I would strongly urge you to contact the Education Authority on the following email address if you applied more than 5 weeks ago and have still not heard back : [mealsandunifor@eani.org.uk](mailto:mealsandunifor@eani.org.uk) If you made your application after 1<sup>st</sup> August then it is likely there will be delay in processing this application. Unfortunately, this is something that is out of our control and as always we will work with parents/guardians to do our best to assist where we can.

Stephen Taylor  
Principal

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