

Free School Meals

Free school meals are offered to children of families who are on low income and in receipt of Universal Credit, Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related), Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance (Income based) or Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit.

They are also offered to children of families who are in receipt of Child Tax Credit only, but who are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, and whose annual income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) does not exceed £16,190.00.

If you are in receipt of Child Tax Credit, you will need to attend one of the council's Customer Service Centres and present your Child Tax Credit award notice.

How do I apply for free school meals?

There are 4 easy ways to apply for free school meals:

- complete the e-claim for Housing and Council Tax Support which includes the option to apply for Free School Meals
- complete the on-line application form*
- telephone the council's call centre on 0161 342 8355
- in person at one of the council's Customer Services Offices

*The on-line form can be completed directly by you only if you are in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based) or the Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit otherwise you should apply as part of a Housing and Council Tax Support claim or go in person to their Customer Services Offices.

Free School Meals can be claimed by parents or guardians of pupils who are on a low income. All claims will be processed by the Benefits Section at Tameside Council with the target date of 3 days.

Further information is available from the Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council:

<http://www.tameside.gov.uk/schoolmeals#apply>

<https://secure.tameside.gov.uk/forms/f231freemeals559.asp>