



Support You May be Eligible For



Free School Meals

Many families in Sandwell could get free school meals but don't claim for them.

Your child may be entitled to free school meals if:

- your annual income is less than £16,190; and
- you claim Child Tax Credit (***Not Including Working Tax Credit**) only; and
- your child is attending a Sandwell School (if your child(ren) doesn't attend a Sandwell School, you will need to apply to the Local Authority which your child(ren) school is in)

***Please note you will not qualify for free school meals if you receive any amount of Working Tax Credit. Before applying please check your latest Tax Credit Awards Notice if you are unsure.**

Your child may also qualify for free school meals if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Universal Credit - To qualify if you are in receipt of Universal Credit, your net earned income (after taxes and deductions 'take home pay') must be below £616 per month under the Universal Credit allowance you receive. This will be confirmed on your latest online Universal Credit statement when you received it. If your net earned income shows above the £616 figure you don't qualify.
- Employment and Support Allowance (income related)
- Guaranteed Pension Credit (including Child Tax Credit)
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Parent's with No Recourse to Public Funds 'NRTPF' - For parent's with no recourse to public funds, you will need to apply directly at your child's school and must meet the relevant Government set eligibility groups. These can be found on the following link; [NRTPF - Eligibility Criteria](#)

Please note - If your child is eligible or becomes eligible for free school meals at any time before 31 March 2023, they will remain eligible until this date or beyond dependent on what school phase (see below) they are in. You will not need to apply for Free School Meals again if you are already eligible at a Sandwell School.

To apply for free school meals please click on the following link

https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200151/education_benefits/2176/free_school_meals



School Uniform

School Clothing Assistance Academic Year 2023/24

If you're on a low income, the local education authority offer you some support towards the cost of buying uniform. You will need to apply directly to Sandwell.

Information regarding the 2023/24 clothing scheme will be available towards the end of the current (2022/23) academic year in July.

Please click on the link below in July to get further information as to how you can apply

https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200151/education_benefits/2178/help_with_buying_school_uniform



School Travel

If you live in Sandwell, are attending the nearest school (via Safe Walking Route) you may be able to receive help with travel costs towards the cost of a bus pass. However, there are certain criteria requirements you have to meet before you will qualify for assistance. Please read Sandwell's [Home to School/College and Adult Learner Transport Policy](#) which gives you more information on the eligibility criteria you will need to match before applying.

Please Note:

Parent's Preference - Applications **will be refused** if you have chosen a school further away than the nearest appropriate school with places available. You will be responsible for meeting these transport costs not the local authority.

Change of Address or School After Assessment Approval - If your child changes school or you move address after you have been approved for travel assistance we will automatically receive a notification alert and a new assessment will be produced. **If it is found you no longer qualify, we will automatically cancel the pass via National West Midlands Travel and therefore it will become inactive from that date and no longer work.**

How do I apply?

Download and complete an application form using this link

[Secondary school transport application form](#)