



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We recognise that some parents find it difficult to fund the costs of school activities, uniform or resources and so we allocate a small amount of money to provide financial assistance.

### School Fund

We run a school fund, which is covered entirely by parental donations. This fund is used to support students with extra-curricular activities as well as developing the school environment. All donations to the school fund are gratefully received – please contact our Finance Office for more information.

### Pupil Premium

Here at Backwell School we offer financial support to Pupil Premium students. Applications may be made by parents/carers whose child/children qualify for Pupil Premium funding (i.e. they currently receive free school meals or have done so in the last six years) or who are eligible for Child Tax Credits. Students who are in care or in service families also qualify for Pupil Premium funding.

Support can include:

- Free breakfast (to the value of 70p) and breaktime snack (to the value of 81p) from the school canteen
- Financial support towards the costs of school trips, supplies (uniform from April 2024) and activities
- Funding towards the costs of peripatetic Music lessons
- Academic support in Maths and English

Further information for those eligible for Pupil Premium funding will be sent out in Term 1. However for more details on what we can offer and how we spend our Pupil Premium funding please visit our [dedicated webpage](#).

### Free School Meals

Students are eligible for free school meals (FSM) if their parents or carers are in receipt of:

- income support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit with annual take home pay/net earnings below £7,400 (which equals £616.67 per month) benefits not included

If you think your family circumstances qualify your child/children for free school meals please visit the [North Somerset Council website](#) to see the latest advice and process on applying.

If your child is already in receipt of free school meals you do not need to reapply and the entitlement should automatically transfer to Backwell School in September.

Students claiming free school meals are also entitled to free breakfast (to the value of 70p) and breaktime snack (to the value of 81p) from the school canteen.

### Wider financial support

Once your child has joined the school we may be able to offer exceptional financial assistance, i.e. if you are **not** in receipt of either free school meals or Child Tax Credit. Once you know the cost of the trip or activity for which you require support please contact the school.