



"Parents have found the portal so easy to use and as a result the authority has seen the largest number of applications and has had an increase of 300 students who are eligible. The team don't think that they would have managed to process all these had the portal not been in place!"  
Suffolk County Council

## Simplified free school meal administration

The **Citizen's Free School Meals Portal** helps reduce the administrative burden on local authority teams by empowering parents to check if they qualify for a free school meal themselves.

Covid-19 has led to an unprecedented rise in families now claiming benefits and local authorities have seen a 400-600% increase in the volume of free school meals applications.

Using the **Citizen's Free School Meals Portal** enables local authorities to digitally transform their processes by going paperless.

Parents apply Online at their convenience receiving an instant eligibility result.

A claim is automatically created against the child's record in One Education, saving local authority staff approx. 20 minutes of manual data input per application.

Schools know more quickly which of their children qualify and more importantly the child benefits from receiving vital nutrition sooner.

## How One Education helps



Encourages more parents to make applications and receive support



Vulnerable children will benefit from receiving meals more quickly



Increased pupil premium income for schools



Creates significant time and cost savings for local authority teams



Enables local authorities to digitally transform services

# How the Free School Meals Portal benefits:

## Local authorities



### Transform services

Helps reduce the impact of social deprivation.

Replace paper applications with a fully digital and secure mechanism.



### Maximise resources

Administration overheads are vastly reduced saving staff time.

Enables resources to be targetted more effectively.

## Schools



### Effective planning

Understand the children eligible for a meal more quickly.

Increased pupil premium income helps provide services to support the most vulnerable children.

## Parents



### Empowers citizens to self-serve

Parents can discretely make an application at a time and place that is convenient for them.

This encourages more parents to use the service and check if their child qualifies for a meal.



### Intuitive and mobile friendly

Easy to use and available anytime and anywhere, including on mobile devices.

The same look and feel and user account details as for the other citizen's portal solutions, such as applying for a school place.

## Children



### Creates better outcomes

More vulnerable children will benefit from receiving a meal without delay.

Better nutrition is essential to a child's wellbeing, health, learning and development and future chances in life.

To find out how the Free School Meals Portal can benefit your authority, please contact us:



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