



# Media Release

## Free School Meal Provision to Extend to P5s in New Year

Stirling Council is reminding families that all Primary 5 children will be entitled to free school meals from the beginning of the new term (5 January 2022).

They will join P4 pupils who have been eligible for the provision of free school meals from the beginning of term in August along with P1-3 who are already entitled to this.

This is the next phase of a rollout of provision of free school meals following an [agreement made in June](#) this year between local authorities and the Scottish Government which will see over 90,000 children across Scotland benefit from the support during term time.

Parents and carers of P1-P4 children do not need to submit an application form for free school meals – but an application form must be completed if a school footwear and clothing grant is also required.

More information on free school meals and school footwear and clothing grants for the 2021/22 academic year can be found on [our webpage](#).

Children and Young People Committee Convener, Cllr Susan McGill said: “It’s fantastic that we are rolling out the next phase of free school meal provision to Primary 5 children, as we know that a nutritional meal helps to support their learning engagement and provides wider health and wellbeing benefits.

“We remain committed to providing fresh, healthy and sustainable meals in our schools and our that menus meet the highest nutritional standards.”

Vice Convener, Cllr Christine Simpson said: “We would like to continue to encourage children to access our school meals with consideration of the wide ranging benefits of a healthy, balanced and nutritious lunch which assists learning and development. Our food is freshly prepared, using sustainable, seasonal ingredients, based on current healthy eating guidelines.”