



# Riverside Primary School

Ferry Road, Hullbridge, Hockley, Essex, SS5 6ND

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11th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: School Census Day – 2nd October 2025

We would like to inform you that **2nd October 2025** is an important date in the school calendar as it is **School Census Day**. On this day, we are required to submit various pieces of information to the Local Authority, including the number of school meals provided to children in **EYFS** (Early Years Foundation Stage) and **Key Stage 1**.

The number of school meals taken on this day directly impacts the funding we receive from the Department for Education (DfE) to provide **Universal Free School Meals** for all Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 children. It is therefore crucial that the uptake of school meals on this day is as high as possible to ensure that we continue receiving the necessary funding to offer these meals at no cost to parents.

As an added incentive, there are lots of prizes to be won and every child will have the opportunity to take part in the **prize draw**.

We strongly encourage you to **book a meal for your child on this date** to help us maintain the funding required for the Universal Free School Meals program. Please see the meal options for the 2nd October below and if your child would like a meal please book on Parentpay..

We appreciate your continued support and cooperation in helping us ensure that all children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 continue to benefit from this valuable initiative.

