



Free School Meals for All

Partner toolkit: CLP Motion

This Labour Party Notes:

1. The current eligibility criteria for free school meals are entirely inadequate, meaning that on average one in three children living in poverty in England cannot access the provision.
2. There is [an ever-growing body of evidence](#) demonstrating universally provided free school meals benefit children's health, attainment, behaviour, lifetime earnings, local economies, families' budgets, and staff working conditions.
3. A [cost-benefit analysis of expanding free school meals](#), carried out by PwC, shows a significant return on investment: universal provision could generate £99.5bn for the economy over its first 20 years.
4. Scotland, Wales and London are all rolling out universal free school meals.
5. Labour Party Conference 2022 passed [an emergency motion](#) in support of universal free school meals.

This Labour Party Believes:

1. That providing free school meals to all children would improve their health and educational outcomes and reduce inequalities.
2. That, like in hospitals, prisons, military settings, and other public places where the state provides food, the state has a moral responsibility to feed those it requires to be in schools.
3. That it is unjust to means test children for this one part of the school day.
4. That providing universal free school meals is a right and economically virtuous investment in our future generations.

This Labour Party Resolves:

1. To campaign for universal free school meals, as per the Labour Party Conference 2022 Emergency Motion.

2. To campaign for sufficient investment accompanying any expansion of free school meals, to cover the associated costs, including staff, food and energy.
3. To write to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Education, calling on the government to invest in the next generation by providing fully government-funded, delicious, nutritious and sustainable school lunches for all school pupils of all ages in England.
4. To call on our MP to support all calls for universal free school meals, including our own, and to speak in favour of the policy in Parliament.