

ODD SOCK DAY

Odd sock day is on Monday 14th November. To celebrate that we are all unique, we ask that children wear odd socks to school on Monday 14th November. Last year over 13,000 schools took part in Odd Socks Day.

Odd sock day is important as the day sends an important message to students that they should be allowed to be themselves free from bullying and helps us to celebrate

Anti-Bullying Week in a fun and positive way.

Wear odd socks with trousers or over tights with a skirt.



LINGUISTICS SUPERSTAR

LanguageNut is the online learning platform that pupils use to improve their Spanish skills. During the month of October, they held a competition inviting almost 200,000 pupils from 52 different countries to take part. The top 50 achieving pupils would win a prize.

Against these staggering odds, Precious in Year 11 won one of the top spots and was ranked 32nd in the whole world. Precious is one of our most dedicated and determined students and has increased her vocabulary knowledge exponentially since using languageNut. We could not be prouder of her. ¡Enhorabuena Precious!

AWARD WINNER

Huge congratulations to our very own Ethan Harling - winner of the WDH Working with Young People Award. We are very proud of you for giving up your own time to support the growth of others.



Keep in contact:

Email us: enquiries@freeston.outwood.com



Follow us on Twitter: [@OutwoodFreeston](https://twitter.com/OutwoodFreeston)

Our website:

<https://www.freeston.outwood.com/>

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

In August we shared with you a document about the support you can receive with school uniform and free school meals. (Image left)

Wakefield Council have created a booklet to support all residents with the cost of living. It has lots of information to support everyone on a range of areas including food, heating and money. (Image right)

Click on the images to take you to the full documents for further reading.

We will as always on the run up to Christmas be collecting for our local foodbank and Mission Christmas - more info coming soon.

Free School Meals and Other Support Available

The cost of living is something that is constantly being discussed. As a school we will be exploring what the cost of living means on a day to day basis for students, but what this also looks like over the year. Times are hard and may become even more difficult in months to come. There is a variety of support out there and we will continue to listen and seek worthwhile opportunities to make sure no child is left behind or without the basics they need.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND OTHER SUPPORT FOR DISADVANTAGED PUPILS - HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following (correct as of writing August 2022):

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- 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-out - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household earnings must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

The following organisations can support colleagues, parents and our wider school community during a time of financial hardship:

Local Support

- Normanton Foodbank
- Wakefield Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) free on 0800 144 8848 or visit www.wakefieldcitizensadvice.org.uk
- Cashwise on 01977 724651 or visit www.cashwise.co.uk

National Support

- Foodbank** - an organisation dedicated to helping young people budget, make better financial decisions and access grants that they might be eligible for.
- Citizen's Advice** - there is a dedicated page to support with the cost of living crisis.
- Money Advice** - Money Advice is a free service for making the most of your money, including breakdowns of the latest financial updates and what they mean for you.
- The Trussard Trust** - to help locate local food banks for those in need.

FSM Contact Details

You can contact the Free School Meals Team by email at FSM@freeston.outwood.com

Free School Meals
County Hall
Barnes Road
Wakefield
WF1 2QL
FSM@freeston.outwood.com
01924 300 061

Outwood Academy Freeston

Other Benefits

You may also receive help towards residential trips, school visits or music lessons. If you feel you have missed any of these opportunities please contact your child's Learning Manager.

How long will it take to process the claim Free School Meals?

The Local Authority aims to process applications within 5-10 working days. Once they have determined the outcome of the application they will advise our academy and you will be issued with a letter.

Our academy will ensure this information is treated in the strictest confidence and handled sensitively.

Normanton Foodbank

Food banks provide a minimum of three days' emergency food to people in crisis, alongside additional support.

Food banks work with frontline professionals to identify people who need support and give them a food bank voucher. These professionals include local agencies like children's centres, housing associations, advice charities, and mental health teams, who are best placed to assess need.

Current Support

- All students have access to free breakfasts from 8 am in the dining room.
- Free School Meals students are encouraged to purchase a main meal inc. dessert and drink at lunchtime.
- All enrichment activities are free to all students.
- All Year 7 students are provided with a free uniform.
- Used uniform donated back to the academy is washed and available freely to students who require it.
- All Year 7 students will be provided with essential equipment.
- The Hardship Fund can be accessed to support purchasing uniforms and other items. See policy for full details on our website <https://www.freeston.outwood.com/>
- MyGo library (online) was purchased to help with the cost of the trips.
- Free trips in school have been free to all students. We ask for voluntary contributions to help with the cost of the trips.
- DT - we cover the majority of costs and ask for a small contribution.
- Period products are free for students to access throughout the day in various places around the academy.
- Staff are on hand to help with any questions or to discuss support in the strictest confidence.

There are many other support mechanisms such as one to one tutors and other applications which will remove barriers to learning and help students flourish which can be reviewed in our Parent Partnership policy.

FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM

Normanton School Uniform Exchange

Visit the shop at Normanton Market Exchange (Barnes Road) where you can find a wide range of school uniforms for sale at a fraction of the retail price. You can also find a wide range of school uniforms for sale at a fraction of the retail price.

Do you live in the Wakefield district and access government benefits?

Cost of Living Support Guide

Wakefield District

Campanas | Help at the Hub | Money | Energy | Food | Water | Housing | Support

Wakefield District | Department for Work & Pensions | NHS | wdh | HELP HUB | wakefieldcouncil