



Free School Meals Initiative Torry

What is the Aim?

We aim to increase the uptake of free school meals in Torry by 7% by 31st of December 2018.

How does this support prevention and early intervention?

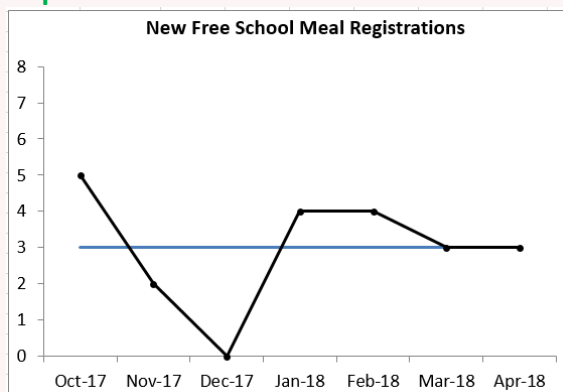
Evidence indicates a gap between the numbers of families living in poverty and those claiming free school meals - 75% of Torry school children are in the most deprived quintile (20%) but less than 25% of P4 – 7 pupils claim free school meals, lower than comparable areas of the city.

Parents of P4 – P7 pupils can build up arrears, at a significant cost to school funds if they do not bring in their proof of entitlement as part of the registration process. As of June 2018, At Tullos Primary School, the outstanding balance for pupils is £19,072 and at Walker Road it's £17,595. Schools also lose out on Pupil Equity Funding (£1,200 per pupil) which is allocated per registration.

What changes are we currently testing?

- Awareness and sign up sessions with pupils and parents at both primary schools
- Tutor time sessions with Academy pupils to complete free school meals application forms to take home for signing from parents.
- Working to re develop systems to automatically register those children that have an entitlement.
- Taster sessions and theme days with the children to encourage them to have more school lunches which includes working with community growing spaces
- Process and System change to auto enrol pupils would deliver a substantial increase in registrations, out stripping aim target, and is a current focus.

Improvement data



The data shows the number of new free school meal registrations since we started the project. The dip in December is due to Christmas holidays. Four new sign-ups at Torry Academy are a result of our first test, running tutor time sessions. Tutor time sessions will be repeated at Torry Academy. An awareness raising event was tested at a Parents evening at Tullos Primary where 20 parents filled in a questionnaire and registration forms were given to parents to complete.