



From September 2026, children in England with parents on Universal Credit can get free school meals, helping 500,000 more kids and saving parents £500 a year.



The government will give £1bn until 2029 and £13m to food charities. Some want them to end the two-child benefit cap.



Groups are glad about the change. They hope the government will keep trying to help children in need. Some want free meals for all children.



In England, 2.1 million children get free school meals. Rules differ in other UK areas. Some want easier sign-up, as many children miss out.