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Monday 6th April 2020

Free School Meal Vouchers

Dear Parents / Carers,

Following the announcement of the Government last week about free school meal vouchers being available for all children entitled to means benefit tested free school meals, I wanted to let you know we are working hard to get this system up and running as soon as we can. It is a huge administration tasks for us, especially on limited staffing. Please note this scheme is not available to nursery age children or children accessing universal free school meals at Key stage 1.

Initially the Government stated these vouchers were for term time only and would be issued to families for the first time on Monday 20th April 2020. As of Saturday, they have now said these vouchers can be accessed from today. Unfortunately, we like many schools are not in a position for this to happen immediately. Whilst we continue to set the system up, we will continue to provide packed lunches for all children not accessing school.

Many of you have already provided us with your emails so that the weekly 16 digit eCodes can be sent directly to you from the distribution company, Edenred. You will need these codes to access www.freeschoolmeals.co.uk and choose your supermarket eGift card to the value of £15 per eligible child. You cannot use the eCode directly with the retailer, it must be exchanged for an eGift card.

If you have not yet provided school with an email address, please contact us as soon as possible.

For those of you who do not have an email address, school will download eCodes on a weekly basis on your behalf for the value of £15 per eligible child. You will need to collect these from school each week. In some limited cases, school can post them out.

Supermarkets currently involved in the scheme are: Morrisons, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Asda, Waitrose and Marks and Spencer.

This is very new to all of us and I appreciate your patience whilst we get this set up. We will contact you in due course with further information about this scheme and how to use it.

Once again, should you have any questions or queries or need support in these challenging times, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Stay safe. Stay well.

Michelle Lauder
Head Teache

