

DATE 18.1.2021

## FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS: WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

The scheme will provide vouchers to cover the period from Monday until 12 February

Schools will be invited to order on behalf of families between this Monday and Wednesday

You'll receive an email with a 16 digit eCode, which you can redeem for a supermarket eGift card on your phone, or printed vouchers from the school

Your school will decide in what form you'll get your vouchers and how often

Free school meals vouchers can only be used for food and groceries



### Well-being Friday Ideas

Baking  
Crafting  
Exercising  
Gaming (not online)  
Cooking  
Painting  
Drawing  
Dress-up  
Write a letter  
Read a book  
Plant some seeds

### REMOTE LEARNING

Firstly, many thanks for the uptake with the remote learning. This is the best way for children to learn as staff provide sequenced work to move learning on. Although the exact school day cannot be replicated, the staff are trying to keep the routines and timetables in place to provide structure. The DfE guidance states for 3 hours of learning a day. I know a few parents are getting through the learning quicker than others, unfortunately there isn't much we can do about that.

A few observations from the first full week of learning:

- Ensure if your child is live that the background is clear as you'd be amazed how wide the cameras pan,
- Ensure any behaviour management is managed at home, children should not be distracting the learning of others as this wouldn't be tolerated in school,
- Ensure if your child has their microphone switched on that any background noise is appropriate as others can and will hear,
- If you are completing the CGP books, please upload the pages daily to support staff when giving feedback. If you upload too many pages all at once, specific feedback will be limited,
- If you require exercise books to support home learning, please just ask.

### Technology help



- We are awaiting our allocation of devices from the DfE but in the meantime we have managed to rebuild some of the old laptops at school. Parents who have requested device support previously, will be contacted when these come available to arrange collection.
- Please ensure you read the login details carefully when logging on before contacting school.
- If you are having trouble, please call and request a call back. This support may not be offered asap so patience is required as staff are teaching and as with many other services there are days when we have lower staff ratios.

### School Communications

- There has been an increase in parental communications across school since the lockdown. Please be patient when awaiting replies. Messages late at night or at the weekend may not be answered. These platforms are not always manned, especially with staff providing live teaching, uploading work and providing in-school support.
- Unfortunately, there have been a number of occasions recently when parents have behaved in an unacceptable way when communicating with school. We appreciate that it is a difficult time for all parents and carers, however this behaviour will not be tolerated as staff are working tirelessly to support each and every family whilst caring for their own loved ones. Please take this into account before contacting school in a negative way.
- To end on a positive, thank you for all of the kind words and support from the majority of our parents, it really does make all of the difference.