



Brentnall Community Primary School

Northumberland Street, Salford, M7 4RP

Tel: 0161 792 4317

Headteacher: Mr M Thompson
Chair of Governors: Rev S Fletcher

Friday 17th April 2020

Coronavirus – Free School Meals Vouchers

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may already know, anyone who has registered for 'Free School Meals' have been provided with a weekly supermarket voucher to spend.

Before Easter, the vouchers were posted to your home address, however from Monday 20th April these will be sent to the email account that you provided school. The email asks you to click on 'redeem your e-code' & to choose a supermarket where you would like to redeem the voucher.

Why have I only got a voucher for one of my children?

The government funds all children who are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to have a free school meal – this is called 'Universal Free School Meal' or 'Infant Free School Meals Scheme'. All children are entitled to this regardless of household income and parents do not have to apply for this, it just happens automatically when they start school. **However**, whilst our school is closed, things are a little different, The Government are **ONLY** funding FSM for children who are eligible through the www.gov.uk website. Therefore you must have registered **all** of your children to receive a voucher you can apply now via <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> or by calling 0161 793 2500.

Could you be entitled to Free School Meals?

To be eligible you need to fall under one or more of the categories below:

- Universal Credit - and your earned income is less than £7,400 a year, after tax and not including any benefits
- Income Support
- income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, providing you do not get Working Tax Credit, and your annual gross income is less than £16,190
- guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you get Working Tax Credits you will not be eligible unless you are receiving the four week 'run on' payment after stopping work.

In order for your child to receive a Free School Meal, whilst the school is closed, you must apply using the link below to check your eligibility. Normally, you would only have to do this when your child is in Nursery or when they move into Year 3, but whilst school is closed you must apply now.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

The application is relatively straight forward and you will receive confirmation in around 5 working days as to whether you are eligible or not. (Although it might take a little longer at the moment.) Once you have applied, school will receive a notification from the authority and we can organise a voucher to be issued to you.

We are sure you agree that every little helps, particularly at this time, and we would like to ensure that we are supporting all our vulnerable families the very best we can.

Keep safe, take care and rest.

Mr. M Thompson
Headteacher