

29 June 2020

Dear Families,

## Free School Meals

We hope that you are all safe and well in these continued challenging times.

We are happy to advise you that the Government has recently announced the provision of free school meals over the summer holidays to support families entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) during these unprecedented times.

At Riverside School, since the announcement of the COVID-19 lockdown, we have provided FSM parcels through the School's regular catering provider, Nourish, and we have been able to deliver many of these parcels to families' homes over the past three months. We have continued to try to access the Government's E-voucher scheme but, along with many other schools, have faced a number of challenges registering for this service. We are pleased to say that after months of trying, we are now able to move over to the Free School Meals E-voucher system for the summer period.

E-vouchers will be provided via the existing system run by Edenred, the Government's chosen provider, and will cover 6 weeks from the end of term. On receipt of the E-voucher, families will then be able to purchase their child's lunch from one of the supermarkets participating in the scheme.

Families in receipt of FSMs and who have confirmed they would like to receive FSM E-vouchers, will receive £15 per week, per child for 6 weeks; this means for a family with one child at Riverside, their E-voucher will be for the value of £90.00.

In order to ensure the process is administered accurately and by the deadline of 1 week before school closes, we need your support as follows:

- 1. If your family is in receipt of Free School Meals, please [CLICK HERE](#) to confirm that you would like to receive an e-voucher. The email you use to notify us must be the one we hold on our school file for you and will be the email the school uses to send the E-voucher.**
2. If you are not sure whether your child is entitled to Free School Meals and would like to check or if your circumstances have recently changed and you believe your family is now entitled to receive Free School Meals, further information (and an application) is available on the Bromley website: [https://www.bromley.gov.uk/site/xfp/scripts/xforms\\_form.php?formID=180](https://www.bromley.gov.uk/site/xfp/scripts/xforms_form.php?formID=180)

**We will need you to complete the above by 5pm on Wednesday, 1 July 2020.**

Please be reminded that:

- We will not automatically process an E-voucher; you have to advise the School that your family would like to receive one.

- The E-voucher does not cover those children in receipt of Universal Infant Free Schools meals (pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) unless they are in receipt of the separate Free School Meals entitlement.

Whilst we are working to ensure that the E-vouchers are sent to families by the start of the summer holidays, there may be delays depending on the number of Schools accessing the system. Nonetheless, when the E-voucher is received by families, it will be for the full 6 weeks.

We will endeavour to keep you posted accordingly.

A Parent's Guide will be forwarded to families taking part shortly, but should you want further information in the interim please visit the following website: <https://www.edenred.co.uk/reward-recipients/Free-School-Meal-Vouchers/>

We hope you and your family continue to remain well during this very difficult time and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Naomi Walters  
School Business Manager