

Dear Parent / Carer,

National Voucher Scheme for FSM

We have had a very good response to the letter sent yesterday about a voucher scheme that we were going to participate in via Dorset Council. Over 150 parents had signed up by 3.30PM. The letter did say that we would be monitoring the national situation as the government were looking at introducing their own scheme. That came about quicker than we had thought and was announced this morning!

The National Voucher Scheme will provide support for those children eligible for free school meals. The Free School Meal vouchers are for term time only and are being fully funded by the government. The DfE's voucher supplier is Edenred.

Each eligible student will receive a weekly £15 voucher. Vouchers will be made available to the adult with caring responsibility for that child, **using the primary contact email address** we have on our school system. Vouchers will be emailed weekly until further notice. Where a family has more than one child eligible for benefits-related free school meals this funding will be combined into one voucher. You will be emailed an 'eCode' directly, you will then be asked to choose an eGift card from a range of supermarkets. These include:

- Morrisons
- Tesco
- Sainsbury's
- Asda
- Waitrose
- M&S

Once you have received your voucher, you will be able to redeem it in-store at the selected retailer by either:

- presenting the voucher on a smartphone or tablet.
- presenting a paper copy of the voucher.

Families are free to select the most appropriate food and drink for your child. When selecting products, we encourage families to consider health and nutrition. The [School Food Standards](#) may act as a useful guide for families. **The vouchers should not be redeemed for any age-restricted items, such as alcohol, cigarettes or lottery tickets.**

Please note that you do not need to take any action to participate in this scheme. We will automatically pass on your details so you can benefit from it. If you choose not to redeem the vouchers that is entirely your decision. **If you want to change the email address that receives the voucher (or check which one is registered) you can do this by emailing Lucy Vincent lvincent@budmouth-aspirations.org**

We are very grateful for this support from the government in these difficult times. If you have any questions on how this scheme will work please don't hesitate to contact me jwarr@budmouth-aspirations.org We expect the first FSM vouchers to be sent out to you in the first week after the Easter Holiday, but the possibility remains that it could even be as early as this week.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Warr