

Dear Parents and Carers,

21 January 2025

Provision of Free School Meals during February Half Term 2025

I am writing to update you on the Government's Household Support Fund for vulnerable pupils which is being coordinated by the London Borough of Bromley (LBB). This Grant has been extended to cover the February Half Term break.

LBB will use the Edenred system for distribution of a free School Meal Voucher to the value of £15 per eligible child.

The grant purpose is *'to provide support to vulnerable households and families with children who would otherwise struggle to buy food.'* LBB has a clear eligibility criteria and NEST schools are supporting the distribution.

Eligibility Criteria

- All Pupil Premium children, namely:
 - children who claim free school meals
 - looked after or previously looked after children
- Children eligible for the service premium, including pupils with a parent:
 - Serving in HM Forces
 - Retired on a pension from the MoD
- Children in Need of help and protection, specifically:
 - Pupils with a Child in Need Plan
 - Pupils subject to a Child Protection Plan
 - Children Looked After
 - Care leavers
 - Pupils supported by Bromley Tackling Troubled Families
 - Privately fostered children
 - Disabled children
 - Ukrainian refugees placed in Bromley through the Family Placement or Homes for Ukraine scheme.

You will be provided with an E Code via email. Please enter this code on the Edenred website to access your voucher worth £15 per eligible child. We will use the eligibility data and email address on our systems to notify and send the E code to families.

Once families have received their voucher, they will be able to redeem them in store at the selected retailer by either:

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

The voucher does not have to be spent in full, in one transaction. The voucher must be used for food, and must not be redeemed for any age-restricted items, such as alcohol, cigarettes or lottery tickets

Please remember, if your circumstances have changed you can check eligibility on the Bromley website and complete the application form. Please also advise your child's school if you are recently eligible.

Lastly, please do signpost your families to the [Holiday Activities and Food programme](#), running every Easter, Summer and Winter, at no cost for eligible children and young people aged 5-16 entitled to benefit-related free school meals.

Keep safe and well

Paula Farrow, CEO