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Dear Parents and Guardians

Free School Meal vouchers

As you may be aware, the Government have launched a nationwide scheme to provide supermarket vouchers for children eligible for Free School Meals. This will operate during term time whilst schools are closed and is to the value of £15 per week. This will begin for you from Monday 22nd April and the scheme is being administered by 'Edenred'.

The way this will work is that a 16 digit eCode will be emailed to you each Monday during term time (we are not sure when this will be during the day). Please note this eCode CANNOT be used directly with supermarkets, but you can then redeem this code via the following website:

www.freeschoolmeals.co.uk

Here you will select which supermarket you wish to use and you will then be sent an eGift Card by email for your chosen supermarket (they advise to allow up to 3 hours for the email to arrive).

There are currently six supermarkets part of the scheme and more may be added:

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

Once you receive the eGift Card by email, this can then be scanned from your phone at the supermarket till or alternatively you can print the email. The eGift Cards will be valid for a minimum of 12 months and currently only the Asda and Waitrose cards can be used for online shopping. The eGift Cards can only be used to purchase groceries; and cannot be used to purchase age restricted products.

In line with government advice, we would recommend that when spending the voucher, only one person visits the supermarket and where possible this voucher is used to buy food for the whole period, to limit the need for multiple visits. If you and your household are in self-isolation the voucher can be forwarded to someone else to get shopping for you. Please note each voucher is unique, so the money on it can only be spent once. Edenred have produced a FAQ document for parents which is attached and which you can also view at -

https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_ParentCarerFAQs.pdf

We are aware that nationally there have been a number of scam messages sent about free school meals. Please note, we will NEVER ask for your bank details and the next official contact you should receive regarding the new scheme, will be the eCode you will receive on Monday 20th April. Please note this new scheme only uses emails, not text messages.

If you have any queries about this scheme in the first instance please contact me by email me at mtwittey@bepschools.org

Finally, thank you for your continued support in these exceptional times. Please keep safe.

Yours sincerely

Mark Twittey
Finance Manager
Wreake Valley Academy

WREAKE
VALLEY



ACADEMY

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