

Dear Parents

1/4/20

I write in regard to Free School Meals

You may have heard that the government will be rolling out a voucher system to help parents who claim for Free School Meals. We have been asked how we wish to proceed and have come to the following decision.

Free school meal provision will continue as normal for this week. We will continue to provide packed lunches to those parents that request them. (Please call the office if you would like one).

Over the next two weeks (which would have been the Easter holidays) we are not expecting to supply any lunches. We are open but only for children of critical workers such as NHS staff. As always though, if you are struggling with hardship then do call and we will try and help if at all possible.

UPDATE: Halton Borough Council has now informed us that they can supply lunches as previously arranged in the last few weeks. If you have been ordering lunches or would like to then please ring the office.

From Monday April 20th, we are hoping to provide vouchers which can be used in major supermarkets. These will be issued per child and be to the value of £15 for a week. The intention is that they be spent on lunches for the children in your family who attend Woodside. The easiest system here is for us to email a code to you. You can then redeem this code for a gift card for the retailer of your choice. You would not need a printer as you can present your device. This requires you to let us know what your email address is. We have requested email addresses but only have about 18 so far.

In the absence of an email address, vouchers could be posted/hand-delivered but this could cause delay, would require us to select the store to be used and we would prefer to reduce the amount of people wandering around Runcorn at this time so please help us out with email addresses.

The easiest way would be to email Joanne at sec.woodside@halton.gov.uk

This seems to be the approach other schools are taking and it does give us time to get it organised. Remember it is just for the parents in receipt of benefit-related free school meals. If you want to double check you qualify, Joanne will be happy to help you. (01928 564031)