



Principal: Dr Katharine Vincent

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Thursday 14th January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to update you about the the provision of Free School Meals at Mulberry UTC.

As you will be aware, we are currently providing weekly food packages for families, in accordance with government guidance. The government has now announced that schools may provide supermarket vouchers instead of weekly food packages. They have also announced that they are re-introducing the national voucher scheme that was running during the first lockdown last year.

I would like to thank those of you who completed our recent online survey about free school meals provision. The feedback we received made it clear that you would prefer to receive vouchers instead of weekly food packages. As a result, we are going to move immediately to providing vouchers for all eligible families, as soon as the national voucher scheme is up and running.

The national voucher scheme will again be run by Edenred, who are contracted by the government to provide supermarket vouchers to families during this time. They are in the process of re-starting the national scheme and have informed us that it will be up and running within the next few days.

Since we are not sure how long it will take Edenred to re-launch the national voucher scheme, we will be going ahead with the distribution of weekly food packages on Monday 18th January. Any families who are eligible for free school meals should collect their package from the school on Monday 18th January 9am and 2pm. **If you are not able to collect the package for any reason, please notify the school and we will arrange to deliver it to you: info@mulberryutc.org.uk.**

I will write to you again once we have more detail about the national voucher scheme. In the meantime, if you are eligible for free school meals, it is likely that a member of staff from Mulberry UTC will contact you to confirm your contact details. It is essential that we have an up to date email address for you on our school system, as that is where the vouchers will be sent.

Thank you for all your continued support during this time.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K. Vincent
Principal