

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity Chair of Governors: Mr C Smith



20th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Support Available

In this letter you will find useful information on the following:

- 1- Household Support Fund Scheme - £40 food voucher
- 2- Helpful information about your child's Free School Meals and other food provisions available at QEGS
- 3- Local support available to you

Household Support Fund Scheme - £40 Food Support Voucher

Eligible households will automatically receive a one-off grocery voucher worth £40 per eligible child/young person. You will receive this email today (20th January 2023). The vouchers are funded from the Household Support Fund, which is money that has been provided to Derbyshire County Council by the Department for Work and Pensions to address financial hardship related to food, energy and essential living costs.

The vouchers are available for:

- Children who receive benefit related free school meals
- Children in an early years setting (nurseries and pre-schools) who receive free childcare for 2 year-olds or the early years pupil premium for 3 and 4 year olds
- Care leavers aged up to 21 years of age living independently

The vouchers can be used at a range of supermarkets – please see the Huggs website for the full list: Supermarkets – Hugg <https://www.hugg.me>

Helpful Information About Free School Meals and Provisions at QEGS

Every Free School Meal (FSM) child has a £2.60p meal allowance every day.

The most cost effective meal for your child to have is the 'Meal Deal'. Please see attached poster for the meal deal options. If they choose to get something else on top of this deal you will be charged accordingly. If there is no additional money in the ParentPay account, this will result in a minus credit and will need to be topped up as soon as possible.

The £2.60p credit does not roll over daily. If your child does not spend the money that day, it will not be added to the following days allowance.

Breakfast and break time snacks are available in all Senior Leadership, Heads of Year offices as well as room 540. This is a discreet provision whereby your child will be able to select a healthy snack should they wish to. Before school, from 8.15am toast/fruit and a drink are also available to them. This does not come out of their FSM allowance.

Local Support Available to You

Ashbourne Foodbank: is run and managed by Ashbourne Elim Church and a great group of volunteers. They are based on the Waterside Business Park opposite Selecta Tyre. If you require support, you are able to self-refer for a one-week emergency food parcel by calling 01335 661237. They also provide longer term support - please speak to them either on the phone or popping in to discuss this further. More details are also available by clicking on the link: <https://ashbourneelim.church/food-bank/>

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Ossie's Kitchen Takeaway: St Oswald's Church in Ashbourne also run a takeaway meal option every Tuesday. There is a main cooked meal, with a vegetarian option and cold dessert. Orders can be made by phoning 07437377345 with meal options between 9am and 12noon on each Tuesday. Your meal will be ready to collect between 4pm and 6pm from St Oswald's Church Centre, School Lane DE61AN. There is also a local delivery service available. More details are available by clicking on the link: <https://www.ashbournechurch.org.uk/get-involved/church-activities/ossies-kitchen/>

There are also other foodbanks available in Derbyshire that may be closer to your home. Please click on the following link to find alternative locations: <https://www.ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk/foodbanks>

Another useful website for support: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund

Finally, I have attached a poster that outlines other financial support available to you at QEGS.

Please know we are here to support you and your child through this difficult time.

Yours faithfully

Mrs K Starkie
Assistant Headteacher