

Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

<u>Update on the National Voucher Scheme – Edenred</u>
<u>Children Eligible for Benefit-Related Free School Meals</u>
Spring Term 2021 - Week beginning the 18th January 20221

The Department for Education (DFE) has developed a national voucher scheme to ensure children eligible for benefits-related free school meals can continue to access support. Following further guidance from the DFE yesterday, I can confirm that vouchers will begin from the 18th January 2021.

Our records indicate that your child is eligible for benefit-related free school meals and can access the national voucher scheme. This is why you have received this email. Please ensure you that you claim your voucher every week. If your child is coming in to school during Lockdown you will still receive this voucher.

The school will issue every child eligible for benefits-related free school meals a voucher to the value of £15 each week. Please note this relates to benefit-related Free School Meals, not universal infant free school meals that every pupil in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive regardless of their status.

We are beginning to process the first round of vouchers from Monday 18th January 2021.

Please note that you should receive your first voucher via email by Wednesday 20th January 2021.

Please note that we have over 300 vouchers to process, and there have been some issues with Edenred in the past, so please be patient.

Whilst we will be uploading the vouchers every Monday, it may take a few days or a week for you to receive your e-voucher so please do not contact the school until Friday 22nd January, if you have not received your first voucher.

From Monday 18th January (until further notice), the school will issue every child eligible for benefit-related free school meals with a voucher to the value of £15 each week that can be used towards the purchase of food and groceries.

If you have more than one child in your family, you will receive an email for each child i.e. two children means that there will be two emails. This email will be sent as an "eCode" and emailed directly to the Parent/Carer. The eCode can be used to choose an eGift card and can be redeemed from a range of supermarkets.

Further information about the scheme can be found from the following website:

https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE FreeSchoolMeals ParentCarerFAQs.pdf

Please note that the school will use the first contact email address in the household.

If you have any enquiries please email the school using the following address:

enquiries@claycots.com

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Griffin

Executive Headteacher