

16th December 2020

Dear parent/carer,

You may have read in the local media that Oldham Council has secured from Government nearly £1million to support families with children over the winter.

We, as your local school, are working with the Council to deliver food vouchers to families with children entitled to income based free school meals before schools finish for the Christmas holidays.

We want to ensure that those eligible for free school meals on the grounds of low income receive a £30 voucher to cover the two-week Christmas holiday at £15 per week per child. This support will also be offered in the February 2021 half term.

The most effective way of ensuring vulnerable families receive the vouchers that can be used in the Oldham supermarket of their choice is via a third-party online hub – known as Wonde.

Wonde is a data integration company already used by many schools in Oldham and who offer a free school meal voucher system. This voucher system has a live link to your school's data therefore automatically recognises the students who are eligible for Free School Meals. The system should be quick and easy to use and produces the vouchers that can be used in most Oldham supermarkets.

If your child is entitled to income based free school meals, please look out for an email and/or text confirming that your voucher has been issued.

For more information go to: <https://help.schoolvouchers.com/hc/en-gb> - this includes a step by step guide of how to access the vouchers (once your school has issued them to you) at - <https://help.schoolvouchers.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360015110178-How-to-access-your-voucher-step-by-step-instructions->

If you have any questions, please contact the school in the first instance.

For any families that are really struggling for food and provisions this winter please visit the Oldham Council website <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/wecanhelp> which lists a number of support and benefits that are available.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Fowler

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