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1st February 2022

Dear parent/carer

Free Food Vouchers for February Half Term 2022

We are writing to you to confirm our plans to provide food vouchers for 30,500 children and young people across the city for the February half term holiday.

The Government has provided a Household Support Grant to assist with food and energy costs over the winter period. Sheffield City Council recognises that many families continue to face financial difficulties because of the pandemic, changes to Universal Credit, and rising costs for food and energy.

A £15 food voucher will be sent to the following groups to help over the half term holiday:

- Families who claim income based Free School Meals
- Families who get income assessed Early Years Support (2-4 Year Olds)
- Young people leaving their care setting (Care Leavers)

They have chosen to continue to use Edenred as the supplier of the vouchers again as parent/carers are familiar with the two-step process involved in downloading the vouchers

The Process

- As before, parents/carers need to go to the following website to redeem their October vouchers - <u>www.selectyourcompliment.co.uk/grocery</u>
- Enter their unique 16-digit e-Code and select their chosen supermarket. Edenred give them a choice of 10 supermarkets: Aldi, Tesco, Asda, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, M&S, McColl's, Iceland and Farmfoods.
- Parents/Carers are able to download their vouchers for more than one supermarket. For example, £10 for Aldi and £5 for Asda.
- The downloaded E-Gift Card/Voucher will arrive by email within 24 hours. If they can't find this, they should check their Junk/Spam folder

Please note codes need to be activated within 3 months or they will be cancelled. Once you have claimed your voucher on the Edenred website the voucher will be valid for 12 months.

We have again produced a short 'How to...' video for parents that you can put on your school website/social media if you wish. The instructions on how to download the video are below:

The cloud video download link is: <u>https://shared-assets.adobe.com/link/a3986f78-7088-4a83-5bf2-</u> 28dfefcb206c

(Please note you need to open this in Chrome browser to download)

The YouTube link is - https://youtu.be/14l2yCc0nNo



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Where can families get further help?

- The FSM Voucher helpline will be available on 0114 2734567, option 4, option 3, and can offer help to parents experiencing difficulties with their e-Codes or with general FSM enquiries.
- Parents/carers can also contact Edenred directly with an enquiry about an eCode or voucher at <u>freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com</u> or telephone 0333 400 5932

Please note: If a parent/carer is facing financial hardship there is free advice and support available at <u>www.citizensadvicesheffield.org.uk</u> or call on 0808 278 7820. You can also find further information about support at:

www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/coronavirus-hub/support-for-people

Yours sincerely Sheffield City Council

