

Headteacher: Miss Caitlin Macrae

8<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Re – Coronavirus update – students in receipt of free school meals**

We have now had further guidance from the government about support for students who are in receipt of free school meals. The full guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance>. In summary, there are three key points for you to be aware of:

- we will continue to provide families with vouchers (instead of providing free school meals in school) which will be sent by post
- we are in the process of moving to the government voucher scheme, which allows other supermarket vouchers to be chosen, not just Sainsbury's
- we will also now be providing vouchers to cover the two weeks of the Easter holiday

If your child is in receipt of free school meals, you should have now received in the post a £35 Sainsbury's voucher, which was originally intended for free school meals from 20<sup>th</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> May. **Please use that voucher to cover the cost of meals for the two weeks of the Easter holiday.**

**We will be sending out further vouchers of £15 per week, per child, for free school meals from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.** We will continue to send Sainsbury's vouchers, but if you would prefer vouchers for a different supermarket, please contact us on [admin@highfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@highfield.herts.sch.uk) by **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 10am** to let us know which supermarket vouchers you would prefer; we will do our best to arrange this. Vouchers are available for: Morrisons, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Asda, Waitrose and M&S.

If you are struggling financially, but your child is not currently in receipt of free school meals, please be aware that free school meals are available for students of parents or carers that receive certain benefits. Please use this link to see if you are eligible: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Many thanks for your continued support and patience.

The Highfield School