

# Thirsk Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr R. Chandler (B. Ed. Hons. NPQH)



31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

## RE Free School Meals Vouchers

The Government have now advised schools that they have developed a national scheme to provide supermarket vouchers for pupils entitled to benefit related free school meals. The vouchers will be in the form of an eGift card, to the weekly value of £15 and will be available only for pupils who receive benefits related Free School Meals, this does not include the KS1 pupils who are in receipt of Universal Free Meals. The vouchers will be provided for term time weeks only.

### Redeeming the vouchers

Once families have received their voucher, they will be able to redeem them in-store at Tesco by either:

- presenting the voucher on a smartphone or tablet
- presenting a paper copy of the voucher

Families are free to select the most appropriate food and drink for their child. When selecting products, we encourage families to consider health and nutrition. The [School Food Standards](#) may act as a useful guide for families.

The vouchers should not be redeemed for any age-restricted items, such as alcohol, cigarettes or lottery tickets.

There are a number of online resources available to support families in preparing healthy and nutritious food, including on the [NHS Eat Well website](#).

Our aim is to implement the voucher scheme today (providing we receive the full information from the DFE), we will be working through our list of pupils registered for benefit related free school meals and contacting parents to obtain valid email addresses for the eGift cards.

If you have not applied for benefit related free school meals and think that you may be entitled please see the form on link below:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

The administration of this will take some time, can I ask that you are patient with staff while we try to set up the system.

Yours sincerely

Richard Chandler  
Headteacher

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