



Mill Water School

admin@millwater.devon.sch.uk | www.millwater.devon.sch.uk | 01395 568890

Thursday 16th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS

I would like to clarify what is happening for families who are eligible for Free School Meals as some of you have been asking how the system works.

The Department for Education (DfE) originally asked schools to either provide a meal in school, a food hamper which could be collected, or to provide vouchers which could be redeemed at a local supermarket. As it is impractical for our parents to collect hampers, we initially bought Tesco vouchers which were sent out to all eligible families.

The DfE then informed us that vouchers would be centrally coordinated through a company called Edenred, and that schools should register with this company. You may have read in the press that the system has been unable to cope with the number of schools trying to log on and order vouchers. We are one of those schools! We have therefore bought another two weeks' supply of vouchers from Tesco which have been distributed to families this week. The vouchers issued so far cover the four-week period 23rd March – 17th April 2020.

We are hopeful that the online system will be able to function successfully in the near future. If this is not the case, we will continue to purchase and distribute Tesco vouchers on a fortnightly basis. If you have any queries regarding your supply of FSM vouchers, please email gevans@millwater.devon.sch.uk who will be able to help you.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Pickering
Headteacher