

Information for schools (*internal use only*)

As you may already be aware, provision of support during the Easter 2022 holiday fortnight (11 to 24 April 2022) is being delivered through the City of Wolverhampton Council.

Children and young people from Reception to Year 11 inclusive with a current / protected benefits-related Free School Meals (FSM) claim are being invited to collect a food parcel and access HAF-funded activities with meals provided at the activity venue for free.

Food parcels will contain ingredients for five lunches and breakfasts and will need to be collected. A list of venues, dates and times for food parcel collection will be shared with successful applicants, as well as details of activity providers and how to book.

To receive this support, parents of children entitled to benefits-related Free School Meals (FSM) will need to register their interest online between Friday 18 and Sunday 27 March 2022 inclusive. Parents without access to the internet will be able to apply by calling the Stay Safe Be Kind helpline on 01902 290241 (during office hours) between Monday 21 and Friday 25 March 2022 inclusive.

Schools are not being asked to make any referrals on this occasion.

Any special dietary requirements (e.g. medically-authenticated food hypersensitivity – allergy / intolerance) or preferences will need to be discussed with individual providers and at the food parcel collection point.

From Friday 18 March 2022 onwards, please share the “*Information for parents/carers*” text message and email / letter with parents of children and young people (Reception to **Year 11** inclusive), **with a current / protected FSM claim in place**. If you are sharing this information with all parents, please ensure it is clear that this support is only for children and young people eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals (FSM).

The deadline for applications for support during the Easter 2022 holiday fortnight is Sunday 27 March 2022.

Families whose children are eligible for free meals through UIFSM should only register their interest if they **also** meet the statutory benefits-related FSM eligibility criteria (www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals).

Online applications will be cross-checked against the ONE System. For children and young people without a current / protected FSM claim in place, parents' current eligibility will be assessed via the Government's Eligibility Checking System using the data received from schools. Applications will only be successful if the child has a current FSM claim recorded on the ONE System or the parent is found to be newly eligible for FSM before the deadline for application (*Sunday 27 March 2022*).

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Successful applicants will receive a confirmation email by Sunday 3 April 2022 with more information about how their child/ren can access this support.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive an email stating the reason their application has been declined, contact details for the Council's [Household Support Fund](#) and [Stay Safe Be Kind](#) pages and the Stay Safe Be Kind helpline number.

If you are concerned that any families may be at risk of food poverty during the school holidays, please visit the Council's [Food Banks](#) page for information about additional support. Schools are encouraged to make referrals for families in need.

Support is available to all residents of the City of Wolverhampton in need at this time. More information is available at the Council's [Household Support Fund](#) and [Stay Safe Be Kind](#) pages, the Government's free and impartial [Money Helper Service](#) or contact [Citizens Advice](#) for free, reliable information. Visit www.yowolves.co.uk for more information about services and activities available for children and young people across the City of Wolverhampton.

City of Wolverhampton Council will be closed on Bank Holidays Friday 15 and Monday 18 April 2022.

Any questions?

Enquiries about the HAF Programme can be sent to HAF@wolverhampton.gov.uk or to Dharm Theora dharm.theora@wolverhampton.gov.uk 01902 555026.

Queries about eligibility only should be directed to the Free School Meals (FSM) team – freeschoolmeals@wolverhampton.gov.uk or by phone 01902 554128. For urgent queries (**internal use only**), please call 07766 473190 (Jo) or 07771 836830 (Roshni).

Thank you for your continued support.