

Dear Parent/Carer

April 2020

**Free School Meals**

I am writing to you as according to our records your child/children who attend Silverdale School are eligible for free school meals.

The government announced earlier this week a scheme to support free school meal students, during the coronavirus outbreak. **Starting from w/c 13<sup>th</sup> April 2020**, Chorus Education Trust schools will be using the national voucher scheme, further information can be found on our website: <https://www.silverdale-chorustrust.org/freeschoolmeals>.

The government is providing supermarket vouchers to the families of those students who normally receive free school meals, during periods when they would normally be in school. The government announced details of this scheme on Tuesday 31 March 2020, and is using a company called Edenred, further details can be found via the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools#support-for-pupils-who-have-to-stay-at-home>

We will be contacting all those families who are currently receiving Free School Meals and registering them on the government scheme through Edenred. A weekly voucher for one child entitled to free school meals will be to the value of £15.00. Where possible, if you have more than one eligible child at our school we will combine the value of all vouchers in to one payment. If your child is still attending school because they fall in to one of the government categories, for example you are a critical worker, they will continue to receive a free meal at school and you will not be issued with a supermarket voucher.

**From the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020**, once registered, providing we have a current email address for you, you will receive a redemption eCode directly to your email address weekly with instructions on how to convert this in to an eGift card. If you are receiving this correspondence by email then this will be the email address we will use to register you with Edenred.

When you receive your eGift card you can redeem this at participating supermarkets (a list of these is on the Government Website, see link above). This scheme does not require your bank account details so please do not provide them to anyone contacting you about this scheme. Please check your email account regularly and ensure any spam filter allows emails from Edenred.

Any families who may have issues accessing an eCode, for example because you do not have an email address, then please contact school by telephone on **15<sup>th</sup> April** if you have not heard from us before that date, and we will explore alternative options for those parents.

**Chorus Education Trust CEO: Chris James**Follow us on  @SilverdaleSch Like us on  @SilverdaleSch

As you can appreciate this is a significant administrative task for school and we ask that you are patient with us and give us time to put these procedures in to place.

Yours sincerely

*C Gray*

Carl Gray  
Business Support Services Manager