Friday 15th May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to inform you of an important change to the way support is provided during school holidays for families eligible for Free School Meals (FSM).

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) has confirmed that, from Easter 2026, holiday supermarket vouchers will no longer be issued automatically to families. This is a Local Authority decision and is not something the school or Trust is able to influence.

What this means

- Easter 2026 was the final holiday period where most families received automatic vouchers.
- There will be no vouchers provided for the Spring / May Bank holiday period or future holidays with the exception of Summer 2026 holiday (see details below).

- Support will instead move to a new Crisis and Resilience Fund, meaning help will be available in cases of need rather than as a universal offer.

Summer 2026 support

RMBC has confirmed that eligible families will receive a one-off £95 supermarket voucher for the summer holidays.

- This will be issued in the form of a Tesco voucher
- Vouchers will be distributed via the usual school process
- Families should expect to receive their voucher during the first week of the summer holidays

At this stage, there is no confirmation that this support will continue in future years.

What is not changing

- Your child will continue to receive Free School Meals during term time as normal
- The Government has announced plans to expand eligibility for FSM from September 2026, which may allow more families to qualify

Support available during holidays

Although vouchers are ending, support is still available:

- **Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme**
  https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/healthy-holidays-2

- **Crisis and Resilience Fund**
  https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/benefits/crisis-support

- **RMBC Financial Crisis Fund (further information)**
  https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/news/article/1221/-1-million-financial-crisis-fund-for-residents-set-to-be-agreed

Important

We are aware many families may still expect vouchers during upcoming holidays; however, these will no longer be issued.

Please note that school staff are unable to issue additional vouchers or apply for support on behalf of families.

We strongly encourage families to review the information on the RMBC website now, so you understand what support is available ahead of the summer holidays.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely

J Dawson

Mrs J Dawson

Headteacher