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07 December 2020

## Dear Parents/Carers

The government has agreed to fund food vouchers over the Christmas holiday for children who are in receipt of free school meals, and other vulnerable families such as those with a social worker or who are currently open to the 'Early Help Hub'. As a result, the local authority are distributing this funding to schools to administer. There will be a voucher available which equates to £15 per week, per child during the Christmas holidays, and another voucher will follow for February half term. We will shortly be sending an email to all those who are in receipt of free school meals with details of how to receive vouchers.

The local authority also recognises that there are other families whose children do not qualify for free school meals, but who may be struggling at this time due to the pandemic. We have been informed that schools will also be provided with a small pot of money, approximately £400 which can be shared and distributed to other families in need.

Whilst we are aware of some families who may particularly benefit at this time, we know that there may be others who have not informed us of the change in circumstances. If you are currently struggling and would benefit from some support over the Christmas holiday, please complete the following the <u>Discretionary form</u> to give us details by **Wednesday 09 December 2020.** Please be aware that all information given will be dealt with confidentially, and it will help us ensure that the discretionary funds support those in need.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Mrs L A de Carteret Headteacher