

## Dear parents and carers

I hope you and your family are well and looking forward to the upcoming Christmas holidays, which will be with us very soon. We all know it is going to be very different this year, but I hope your preparations are going well and you will still be able to enjoy the festive period.

As you may know, the government has distributed funding under the Covid Winter Grant Scheme to provide free school meal provision over the holidays to ensure children are offered free healthy meals over the Christmas holidays.

We have been notified by Wiltshire Council that all schools will be given the funding and it will be for schools to then share this with those families who are eligible for free school meals.

As a school we already have a list of those who currently have free school meals. However, we understand that circumstances can change, particularly in the current situation. If you believe you are eligible for free school meals can I ask you get in touch by emailing the school office, [admin@winsley.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@winsley.wilts.sch.uk), or ringing us on 01225 863365, no later than 12 Noon on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December so we can ensure you are included in this. We can provide an application form or direct families to the Wiltshire Council website <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-free-school-meals> where eligibility details and the application form can be found. The Council processes applications within a few days so it is not too late for new applicants to qualify for the Christmas voucher scheme.

At our school, we will be ensuring our free school meal families have the funding by providing vouchers for you to spend; these can be spent at various supermarkets. If you are entitled already to free school meals for your child(ren) please let the office know by 12 Noon on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December if you would like to receive the food vouchers or if you would like to decline them. Any vouchers that are declined can be reallocated to other families in need, so it is important that we have a response from all of our current free school meals families. Once we have the full details of how the vouchers will be provided we will contact those entitled to free school meals who have let us know that they would like to receive vouchers. This will be done as soon as possible and definitely by the end of term on 18 December.

We know this is a difficult time for everyone and if you feel you need additional support, and don't have a network of support around you, the Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub is available.

You can call the hub on 0300 003 4576 (local rate call – included in many call packages) or email [wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk). It's open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4pm.

If you have any questions on the provision please email [admin@winsley.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@winsley.wilts.sch.uk) or call the school on 01225 863365 by 12 noon on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. We want to ensure all our families that need the support are provided for so do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you

Jan Light  
School Business Manager  
Winsley Primary School