

RHU/ALA/April 2020

24 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Free School Meal Vouchers – COVID-19**

As you may be aware, the Government has now published further details of its national voucher scheme for children eligible for free school meals. Full information can be found here: [National Voucher Scheme](#).

Despite the best efforts of the Academy to ensure voucher requests are submitted and delivered in advance, there have been lengthy delays in fulfilling orders due to the unprecedented demand and order volumes across the country. We appreciate your patience and do recognise the importance and sensitivity of distributing vouchers to families in need. **We are doing all we can to resolve the issues with Edenred and voucher distribution as quickly as possible.**

**Vouchers will be delivered to parent/carer e-mail inboxes as soon as possible by EdenRed.**

Please continue to check e-mail addresses **(and spam filters)** for both parents and contact the Academy at [enquiries@oswba.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@oswba.co.uk) to update contact addresses accordingly.

**The following additional support is also being offered** by the Bilston Neighbourhood Team from **Bilston People's Church, Excel Church**, Wolverhampton Street;

- Food parcels are available and can be delivered to the most vulnerable individuals and families living in the Bilston area. They are accepting referrals from local agencies so they can ensure parcels get to those who need them most and keep the service sustainable. Please share this information with your network.
- A shopping and delivery service to individuals who live in the Bilston area who are required to self-isolate. They can arrange pick-up of payment, shopping list and delivery of goods whilst maintaining safe social distancing measures. Individuals in this situation and who are living in the Bilston area can self-refer and they accept referrals from local agencies.
- Regular friendly phone calls to those who are required to self-isolate.

For anyone needing extra support Wolverhampton City Council have provided a list of local food banks that can be found via the link below;

<https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/benefits/benefits-universal-credit-welfare-reform/food-banks-and-soup-kitchens>

Please continue to stay safe during these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely,



Mr WR Hughes  
**Principal**