

Ealing Council
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08 December 2020

Dear Parent or Carer,

Supermarket Vouchers to support families over the winter period

I am writing to advise you that, if your child is eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals, then Ealing Council will be providing your household with additional financial support through the winter months.

You will receive a supermarket voucher before Christmas to support you to meet food costs over the school holidays. A second voucher will be issued ahead of the February half term.

This is part of the Government's COVID Winter Grant Scheme. Ealing Council has been allocated approximately £1m to support to families with young children on low incomes who have been affected by the pandemic throughout the winter period.

A company called Blackhawk Network is administering the voucher scheme for Ealing Council at no cost to the council.

How much are the vouchers worth?

December voucher - £30 per eligible pupil to cover the two-week Christmas holiday.

February voucher - We will write to you about the February voucher separately closer to the time.

Please note that children in Reception to Year 2 who receive a free school meal under the universal infant free school meals scheme are not entitled to receive the vouchers. To be eligible, you must be entitled to a benefits-related free school meal due to your low family income.

How do I redeem the voucher?

1. Blackhawk Network will email you a 16-digit code. This will be sent to the email address we have on our records. Please keep an eye on your inbox and check your junk or spam folder. If we do not hold an email address for you, your code will be posted to you.
2. When you have received your code, go to www.select-your-reward.co.uk
3. Type in your unique 16-digit code on the homepage and click 'Redeem'

4. Make your selection and click 'Checkout'
5. Enter a valid email address where your confirmation and voucher will be sent.
6. Review and accept the terms and conditions before placing your order.
7. Once you have placed your order, your voucher will be emailed to you within 24 hours.
8. You can use your voucher either online or in store

Where can I spend the voucher?

You can choose where you spend your voucher. The voucher can be used at the following retailers: Tesco, Sainsbury's, Asda, Morrisons, Waitrose and M&S. The voucher should be used to purchase food and should not be spent on non-essential items. Prices vary from one place to another so you might want to consider comparing prices for the items you need before deciding which supermarket to use.

Need help?

If you have any questions, please refer to the frequently asked questions on the website as these may provide the answer that you need: <https://www.select-your-reward.co.uk/Faqs>

If you have not received a voucher code by 21st December 2020, please check your junk or spam mailbox folder.

Otherwise, please complete the online contact form at <https://www.select-your-reward.co.uk/ContactUs>

Please do not contact your school directly regarding your vouchers.

Other support available

In addition to the vouchers to support families through the school holidays, Ealing Council is topping up the Local Welfare Assistance fund with an additional £130,000 to help anyone facing financial hardship as a result of Coronavirus.

Anyone struggling to meet food costs, cover their rent or purchase essential items can apply for financial assistance. To find more information or to make an application go to, https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201264/help_for_residents/2687/help_with_your_money/2

Wishing you and your families a happy and healthy festive period.

Yours faithfully,



Laurence Field