



Food Voucher Scheme – Advance Notice



Going forward into the new 2024/25 academic year and beyond

As you know, the authority continued to support all eligible parents in receipt of benefit related free school meals with a food voucher for the last 2 years during all half-term school holidays up until the main six-week summer holiday in the 2023/24 academic year. The funding came direct from Sandwell's Household Support Grant fund, which the authority decided to continue supporting those eligible and who attended a school in the Sandwell Metropolitan Borough, where over three hundred thousand vouchers have been issued over this period.

Going forward, free school meal vouchers issued to families during school holidays will no longer continue into the new 2024/25 academic year and beyond.

The authority will, however, continue to offer '**Holiday Activities and Food**' during the school holidays, where eligible children can enjoy fun activities and a meal, free of charge. Schools are advised to inform parents that they can go to <https://holidayactivities.sandwell.gov.uk> for more information.

In addition, for families who need extra financial support during the school holidays, schools are advised to inform parents that help is also still available on the '**Supporting Sandwell information hub**', which includes financial advice. Schools are advised to inform parents that they can go to <https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/supportingsandwell> for more information.

Education Benefits & Transport