

Update - Government free school meals programme with Edenred

First of all, thank you for your patience. The government's new national programme has taken longer getting started than they would have hoped for I'm sure – but Edenred are sincerely committed to improving the system and reducing the time delays for everyone concerned – Parents/Carers and Schools alike.

So, where are we at now:

The £15 eCodes have been released for both week commencing Monday 7 April and Monday 14 April (these are the two additional weeks provided for the Easter Break). At the end of the day on Wednesday 22 April just over 50% of these had been redeemed by parents/carers and exchanged for the eGift cards. Please check your inboxes and junk mail. If you have not received them – please email finance@st-columbas.bexley.sch.uk

Looking forward, we uploaded our request to provide 4 weeks x £15 = £60 per student, ready for week commencing Monday 20 April to Friday 15 May. Your eCodes should be released to you shortly.

Some further good news: Aldi has been added to the list of supermarkets available.

New Information – Temporary extension of free school meals eligibility to NRPF parents/carers

The news released this week is that the government are temporarily extending the free school meals eligibility to include some children of families who have **no recourse to public funds** (NRPF).

These include:

1. children of Zambrano carers;
2. children of families who have the right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights;
3. children of families receiving support under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; or
4. children of families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989.

With exception of those receiving support under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, you must also be earning less than £7,400 per year after tax, per household.

To apply please download the application form on the schools website and submit to finance@st-columbas.bexley.sch.uk and we will respond asap.

Thank you.

Mrs S Goddard
School Business Manager
Information current as at 23 April 2020