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14 January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

## Free School Meals Update

Further to the Principal's letter dated 11 January 2021, I write to share updated arrangements for the provision of Free School Meals. Thank you to families that have provided feedback on our arrangements as this has helped to inform our plans. However, as I am sure you are aware the landscape is very changeable. Therefore, we may have to review our plans in the future.

We can confirm that we have decided not to proceed with food parcels at this time. The government has now announced that they will be reactivating the Edenred voucher system. For the time being, we have decided to use this system instead from the week commencing Monday 18 January 2021. You can use the voucher to purchase food for your children registered for free school meals at a variety of major supermarkets.

On a weekly basis, you will receive a voucher to the value of £15 per child. Please note that where you have a number of children at the academy, you will still only receive one voucher in one child's name. For example, if you have two children at the academy, you will receive one voucher for £30 per week.

Please note that Edenred will be controlling the order in which schools are able to sign up to the reactivated scheme next week and therefore it may take a few days for you to receive the first voucher. Please take this opportunity to check that we have the correct email address for you listed on Edulink as this will be the address that the voucher is sent to. If you do not receive the voucher next week, it may be worth checking your junk mail filter first as sometimes emails go to this destination by accident.

We hope that this alternative approach will help you support your families at this challenging time.

If you have any further questions about free school meals, please contact the Academy by emailing <a href="mailto:info@miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk">info@miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk</a>. It would be helpful if you can mark the subject of the email as Free School Meals Enquiry.

Yours sincerely,

Lauren Phillips Vice Principal