



Learning for Life

Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School

Headteacher: Sue Spearman

Part of the
Templefields Multi-Academy Trust

18 March 2021

Dear Parents

HELP AVAILABLE FOR FAMILIES

We are writing to inform you of a variety of ways where support is available for families in need during these unprecedented times. Some of the sources available have a criterion to meet and some are open to all. Each one is assessed on individuals' circumstances.

COVID Winter Support Grant

Essex County Council will be providing Free School Meals funding over the Easter holidays. Vouchers to the value of £30 per child will be issued to eligible families using the Wonde system. A link will be sent directly to you to enable you to choose your choice of supermarket. Orders will be raised by the school from 22 March 2021 so you will receive them by the beginning of the holidays. If you have recently changed your e-mail it is important that the school are aware to enable receipt.

Clothing Grant

Essex have recently been given an additional grant allocation from the Department for Work & Pensions, with specific allocation criteria. Given the restrictions on the use of the additional grant, they have decided that this money be best used by allocating to schools to help families purchase new school clothing for their children and young people. Vouchers to the value of £25 per pupil can be used to buy clothes in supermarkets along with other retailers, such as Decathlon, H&M and Sports Direct. These may be available after the school has sought approval from Essex to families in most need.

Food Bank boxes

The school are also working with Harlow Food Bank and are able to provide food boxes for those in need and meeting the criteria.

Lockdown Support Fund March 2021

Essex County Council are committed to continue supporting communities most in need and that have been adversely impacted by the Covid-19 crisis and following on from our summer, half term and Christmas fund we will extend our 2021 Lockdown Support fund so that foodbanks, food pantries, community organisations, schools and voluntary groups can provide food support through the current lockdown.

Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School fully complies with information legislation. For the full details on how we use your personal information please see <https://www.fandbharlow.uk/page/?title=GDPR&pid=217> or call the number below if you are unable to access the internet.

London Road, Old Harlow, Essex, CM17 0DA

Telephone: (01279) 429427 E-mail: office@fawbert-barnards.essex.sch.uk Website: www.fandbharlow.uk



This funding is for the provision of food for families with children and individuals from across Essex County Council local authority areas who are most in need and adversely impacted by covid-19.

Please contact the school if you previously received food provisions and need continuous support for the Easter break.

Essex Essential Living Fund

Households struggling to pay food, fuel or water bills and for other essential household goods such as fridges or cookers can apply for an emergency grant from Essex Essential Living Fund (EELF). Anyone can apply but EELF will advise on eligibility and what they could get. Apply online or call 0300 7900124 between 8:45am - 5:00pm

Essex Family Wellbeing Service

On behalf of Essex County Council and the NHS, Virgin Care and Barnardo's provide a range of child and family services throughout Essex that are free at the point of delivery. <https://www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/>

Holiday Activity Fund

Essex County Council is working with Active Essex in order to deliver the Department for Education funded 'Essex ActivAte' holiday activity and food programme. This programme has been developed to provide support to young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals, and their families.

Through the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays ActivAte will deliver a blended offer of support which will include face to face holiday activity clubs that provide nutritious meals, an outreach offer for secondary school aged children, nutrition education for all of the family, a schedule of fun sessions and activities taking place virtually through the Keep Essex Active Youtube channel as well as holiday activity packs.

Due to the current restrictions and government guidance the Essex Active-Ate Easter holiday programme will provide a limited face to face offer for the most vulnerable young people. They want to make sure this offer reaches the young people that are most in need of this offer. It could be young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals; young people who have a child in need plan or a child protection plan; a looked-after child; or any young person that you have identified as otherwise vulnerable and would therefore benefit from continued attendance during the Easter holidays. This might be for a range of reasons such as being at risk of becoming NEET, living in temporary accommodation, a young carer, or young people who need support to manage risks to their mental health.

Our school will be a venue for the Easter programme. Booking links for this will be shared with you shortly when received.

Holiday Activity Club

Changing Lives [a charity based in the town] have received funding from the local authority to run 3 Easter activity camps in Harlow based at Passmores, Pemberley and Paringdon. They're all running from 10am-2pm, include lunch and are totally free to the kids. More details can be found at <https://www.changinglivescommunityservices.com/changing-lives-events/>

If any of the information in this letter is of a benefit to you, please approach a member of staff or e-mail office@fawbert-barnards.essex.sch.uk for more details of applying for the help that is available.

Yours sincerely

Sue Spearman
Headteacher