

Dear parent / carer

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

As you may have seen on the news, there have been several briefings this week from Gavin Williamson, the secretary of state for education.

He has stated that schools can provide food hampers or for parents to collect a packed lunch each day for parents if pupils are entitled to a benefits related free school meal.

However, as a school we feel that our parents would be happier to receive a meal voucher, where they will have the opportunity to decide which supermarket they spend the voucher at.

As a school we are still awaiting confirmation from national government as to what value these vouchers will be for. To provide some initial support to parents we are going to send a voucher worth £25.00. Free school meals currently receive £2.30 each day to provide a free school meal to children whose parents are in receipt of benefit related free school meals. This will cover the weeks beginning 4<sup>th</sup> January and 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

You should receive your voucher before the end of the day. Children who currently are attending school will be having a meal in school so will not receive a voucher. This may change once we receive further information from national government.

Please do make sure we have up to date mobile phone numbers as vouchers are sent out by text.

The school is always here during the school day to answer any queries you may have and we can be contacted on 01582 531860 or <a href="mailto:info@riverbankprimary.org">info@riverbankprimary.org</a>

Best wishes

David Sansom Headteacher