



To All Headteachers

Children, Young People and Education

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Dear Colleagues,

Free School Meal (FSM) Provision for the Easter Break

The Government has recently announced an extension of grant funding that can be used to provide free school meal vouchers to eligible families for the Easter holidays. This is in addition to the Holiday Activities and Food Programme funding which would enable those attending an activity to receive a free meal. This additional funding is very welcome but unfortunately, the timing for spending it is very tight. Once again, we are dependent upon your help to achieve this and I would like to thank you in advance for your support.

We want to ensure that vulnerable children do not go hungry and that schools can allocate, and parents can receive, this provision in the most timely and efficient way. Feedback from schools who used Wonde during February half term to order vouchers for children eligible for FSM was positive and indicates this to be a workable solution for all concerned. We had fewer queries from schools and families where Wonde had been used compared to the numbers where schools had used other mechanisms. We would, therefore, request all schools use the Wonde solution to distribute vouchers to eligible families for the two-week Easter holiday period. Due to the tight timescales, please can all orders be made by Thursday 1st April 2021.

Most schools will now already have Wonde Software Solutions installed and will be familiar with how it links with their school-held data to produce a pre-populated list of eligible families.

For the Easter break period a drop down menu will allow you to select the option for KCC to be invoiced for the cost of the vouchers. The school will receive a copy of this invoice for their records and once received, no further action is necessary. Schools continue to be responsible for paying for all vouchers ordered to cover term time periods.

How to get started

1. You already have Wonde

The large majority of schools already use Wonde for MIS integration and therefore simply need to [login to Wonde](#) and launch the voucher system.

2. You don't have Wonde

Please contact support@schoolvouchers.com with your school details so this can be arranged.

Please can I ask that you look to place your orders for FSM vouchers with Wonde immediately to ensure that they can be sent to parents and carers ahead of the two-week break, which begins on Friday 2nd April 2021.

For help and guidance on accessing Wonde's school voucher service, please see the links below. If you have not used Wonde before, please do take the time to watch the recorded webinar which takes you through the ordering process from start to finish. There is also a section for parents within their help articles so please make them aware of this.

Help articles: <https://help.schoolvouchers.com>

Email: support@schoolvouchers.com

Website: www.schoolvouchers.com

Recorded Webinar (17 minutes long) <https://help.schoolvouchers.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360016286077-Recorded-Webinar>

If using Wonde presents your school with significant difficulties or you require any other help, please contact us on kentfsmenquiries@kent.gov.uk and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely



Christine McInnes
Director of Education